

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

January 4, 1939

*written before Jan. 22nd
has been 84 for some
agreeing
Wainwright until 1940.*

Dr. John M. Somerndike, Sec'y
Board of National Missions of
the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In reference to our plan of my going to the states in view of a year's work in the University of Dubuque. The first important question is the possible successor. You will recall I wrote you concerning this last year that after I had a conference with Rev Klerekoper of Barrow, I would be in a better position to make any suggestion on this point. It so happened it was impossible for me and Klerekoper to confer on this till last month on his visit to our station. Then he was looking forward to your letter in answer to his suggestion and that after returning to Barrow he was to have me know the best plan to decide upon my successor. I have not received a word from Rev. Klerekoper since he has been here. But basing ~~my~~ on our conference I am able to give in my suggestion, and which I believe is in accord with Rev. Klerekoper's. For the best of the community work under our Church, we have in mind of Roy Ahmaogak, an elder of Barrow ~~YERK~~ Church for some fifteen years, having had association with our mission work in many ways, as teaching in Sunday Schools, interpreting for ministers at Barrow, translating Hymns to Eskimo versions, and "mushing" our missionaries between villages and at various times, not forgetting the systematic Bible Study he had under Dr. Greist for some years. Roy, we feel, could obtain a privilege to work as a lay-worker, and the sustenance of his family to be under the decision of the Board. The above suggestion only when and if the Board is not able to secure a trained minister from the states or elsewhere to take my place for a year. I trust that Rev. Klerekoper has written you a much more lengthy recommendation of the said person and that he has given you more of information which I may have omitted in this letter.

The next important question (to me) is my leaving the station for a year to be in the states. Esther (Mrs.) has finally decided to come along and that means the two small boys also, the older being not quite three years at the present. This past winter it has been my unfortunate lot that Esther have had to go to Kotzebue for medical treatment as well as for the older boy. I had her gone by the last summer boat and she is not to be back here till early spring. All of this means that whatever monthly salary I receive has to be largely given her (or rather sent her) for her sustenance and also at the same time I must ~~meet~~ the personal expense which could have been avoided with Esther's presence in the house. I believe you can understand to bear with me that I will have to be very close in my expenses when out with the family and to give them the best possible sustenance while there.

As I see it at the present, the best method to travel may be by way of Fairbanks which will take in the following route: W

Wainwright to Kotzebue	By boat or plane
Kotzebue to Nome	By Boat or plane
Nome to Fairbanks	By plane

Fairbanks to Seward

By Alaska Railroad

Seattle to Seattle

By Steamship

Seattle to Dubuque

By Railroad

The other possible route is Water way all the way to Seattle but that will mean delay in various ports and late arrival perhaps in October or November at Dubuque. That also may mean seasickness for Esther and the boys as all three from experience are mighty poor sailors.

For our trip out I am not in the position to state what the total fare would be but that could be obtained by late spring or early summer. Perhaps your office would be in a better position to find out just what that would ~~come~~ amount to.

Just today I have mailed to Rev. Youel of Fairbanks the amount of money in a check form what I have been able to collect for Missions on the basis of Every Member Canvass. It was gratifying to discover how much we have been able to collect under heavy pressure of local economic situation.

He should send him as soon as possible

I am not sending out an order for groceries, thinking whoever is coming will naturally look forward to supply himself from whatever source he chooses. But if the station is to be run next year the usual supplies will be needed, i.e., ten tons of coal, six cases (60 gal.) of gasoline, and two cases (20 gal.) of kerosene. I trust sometime in the future we will be supplied with a storage of some sort for the better care of our mission property. For description of this see my letter of January 3, 1938. Sometime ago I had a favorable reply for this proposal but the freighting difficulty hindered this shipment to us.

Promised to send him this in 1939.

Could you supply us with two fire extinguishers, one for the church building and the other for the Manse. If possible, send along refills for each as the local store has none for sale of such.

Hoping to hear from you as to suggestions and instructions concerning our trip out in plenty of time, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Spalock

Feb.
24th
1939

Rev. Percy Ipalook,
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I have just read your interesting letter of January 4th. You sent me a wire later stating that you would not take your furlough this year, and we have arrangements all made for you to go out next year: 1940. This is final and there will be no change, so you can go ahead and make your plans accordingly. We would like you to come out the cheapest way. The Board pays the travel of missionaries on furlough as far as Seattle and return to their fields by the cheapest route. You will have to find out what the cheapest route is and make your arrangements to come out that way because I do not have any authority to pay your expenses on the most expensive routes. I am afraid that coming out by plane would be entirely too expensive.

Dubuque Seminary will make arrangements to take care of you at a very reasonable rate. I have already been in correspondence with President Welch about this matter so you need not give yourself any worriment about it. Your salary will be paid regularly during the entire time, and I think you will find that you will be able to get along without any financial embarrassment. At any rate, I will stand by you the best way I can.

I have not yet received the list of groceries that you will need for this next year. Please mail it immediately, for we shall have to place the order with Mr. Gould very shortly. Of course you will not need to send any order for delivery in 1940.

We understand that you will require:

10 tons Coal
6 cases (or 60 gals.) Gasoline
2 cases (or 20 gals.) Kerosene

I wish that we could provide you with a small storage house. The present financial condition of the Board, however, is such that we are unable to undertake this expense this year, but I hope we will be able to do it before very long. Please let me know what type of fire extinguisher you have so that we can order the proper refills.

We will expect you during the absence of Mr. Klerekoper to keep in touch with Roy and to visit Barrow at least once every two months in order to give him advice and to see that everything is moving along satisfactorily.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

March 6, 1939

Dr. J.M. Somerndike, Sec'y
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In the middle of January I received your wire asking if I would be willing to postpone my furlough to another year, and which I have replied to the affirmative.

I am waiting for your instructions just what arrangement you have for me for the coming year. I understand that Rev Klerekoper is to go out this year and that I supervise Barrow mission during his absence. Unless I hear otherwise from you I take it that I am to be transferred to Barrow during the coming summer and for a year.

In view of all this I have mailed you a grocery order which I suspect will be in your hands the same time as this letter. Klerekoper informed me that he already sent his grocery requisition by January; however, I feel that I would not need as much or I would resort to ordering different items from what he did. I trust you will instruct Mr. Gould of Seattle where to send the personal groceries I have coming, whether to Barrow or Wainwright.

What would you suggest about the running of the Wainwright station? Would it be necessary for me to make interval visits here as Rev. Klerekoper has been making?

Trusting that all will work out in spite of the necessary changes, altho' I certainly need that year at Dubuque as soon as the Board will permit.

Yours sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

*Refer: your wire
January 10, last.*

Mar.
30th
1939

Rev. Percy Ipalook,
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

No doubt by the time you receive this letter you will have received the sad news of Dr. Somerndike's sudden death on March 14th. He was in the office the entire day before, apparently in his usual good state of health. At three o'clock the following morning he suffered a heart attack which took him almost instantly. His passing has left a deep void in our work and in our hearts, but we are bravely trying to carry on as we know he would want us to do.

Your letter of March 6th has just been received, together with your grocery order which we shall place through Mr. Gould in the usual way. In addition we shall also order the following:-

10 tons Coal
6 cs. Gasoline (60 gals.)
2 cs. Kerosene (20 ")

We shall also be glad to send you two fire extinguishers if you will let us know the type you desire.

All of the above supplies will be sent to you at Wainwright, as it was Dr. Somerndike's plan for you to remain at your own post - simply making the trip to Barrow every month or two in order to check up on Elder Ahmaogak and give him whatever advice might be necessary. I think you will find that Dr. Somerndike's letter of February 24th explains this quite clearly. Of course you will understand that any expense incident to your trips to Barrow during this time will be covered by the Board.

Very sincerely yours,

BH

UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

P. S. I would suggest that you arrange a conference with Mr. Klerekoper before he leaves and make out a definite plan with reference to this entire matter.

B.H.

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

November 4, 1939

Dr. Everett B. King, Sec'y
Board of National Missions of the
Presby. Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. King:

With this initial letter of ours from the field I wish to have it known that you have our heartiest cooperation and that we will strive to the utmost of our ability to carry out your orders and suggestions as to the interest of our Mission work within the Arctic. It has been a privilege to work with the Board the last five years and the future seems to hold not only an interest but a challenge to do His bidding in our own sphere.

First of all, I would like to work out with you my possible trip to the States the coming summer as taking it by way of a furlough. As you may have already been informed of this subject Dr. Somerndike had planned for me to leave for the States by summer of 1940, going direct to the University of Dubuque in Iowa for further study in its Seminary. It was understood that my family go with me and that the expense to and from the States would be under the Board's obligation. For further details on this I trust that Rev. Klerekoper who is now on his furlough may be able to inform you as I know he will be within your reach either personally or by correspondence if he winters at Princeton. I would appreciate your view on this by the return mail as the President of the University mentioned would like to know of my plans by April next the latest.

On the other hand, I trust that our Barrow Mission will ^{be} occupied once again by the coming summer by an ordained man to oversee our Arctic work in general. I am handicapped as yet with the honor of ordination and such a man is urgently needed ~~somewhere~~ in a time as this. What would you suggest about the Wainwright Mission in case I left for the States by next summer, and an ordained man is placed at Barrow by then? Perhaps you have considered this situation and that the organized plan has already been made. But if not, we may be able to work the problem out before the year is over.

I have been asked to make interval trips to Barrow within the year in order to help out our supply lay-worker, Roy Ahmaogak. So far I have made one trip only and that by a boat in the past summer. I am planning to make the next one within a week or two by a dog-team sled. The Board has informed me that these trip expenses will be under its hands, hence the round trip by boat made in the summer was at ten dollars (\$10.00). *He should feel out exp vouchers like attached.*

Will it be possible to work out something definite in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of Presbyterian Mission work in the Arctic in 1940? I would do what I can in gathering data or material of some sort for information or publication in connection with the jubilee. Let me know what you think.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Dec.
19th
1939

Mr. Percy Ipalook,
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

I have your letter of November 4th, and am interested in what you say about coming to the States in the summer of 1940 to take up your work at the University. I have been reminded of this plan and am perfectly willing for you to carry it through. I do not know how we will be able to supply your field while you are away. Perhaps you will be able to offer some suggestions.

It is not too early to be thinking about the scholarship at Dubuque. Please tell me what you have done, if anything, about preparing the way for the schooling.

In regard to your trips to Barrow, you should fill out an expense voucher calling for the amount you expended, \$10. When we receive the voucher here it will be paid. I am sending you a supply of these vouchers herewith.

I am interested in the fiftieth anniversary of Presbyterian missionary work in the Arctic in 1940. I wish you would gather some information and we will try to have some jubilee in connection with it.

I expect to be in Alaska during the month of March. If at all possible, I would like to participate in such a gathering as you have suggested.

Cordially yours,

EBK:BN

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

January 4, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King
Presby. Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. King:

From the enclosures you will note that in the past summer we have expended for the lightering of Mission supplies at the lowest bid given us by the Wainwright Reindeer & Trading Company. The lightering consisted principally of coal for the local mission. Also, from the receipt attached you will see that I have paid for the full lightering charge. I wondered if the lightering for coal could not be under the Board's obligation as I have already taken care of its longshoring from the beach to the premises. If obliged, the bills that should be refunded to me are as follows:

Lightering 10 tons coal	@ \$2.00	\$20.00
Wainwright-Barrow Trip Nov. 15-22		35.00
		<hr/> \$55.00

Since August I have ^{made} one trip only to Barrow and that was as soon as the route was possible to make with a dog-team. I was planning to make the next visit in the last week of this month, but with the measles both at Barrow and Wainwright I doubt that any trip will be made till about two or three months hence. Both of the villages are strictly under quarantine and all the dwellings in each are isolated, thus our church services are at a standstill for an indefinite period. All of our Christmas week activities were called off much to the disappointment of the youngsters, and especially after an arduous preparation both at the Government school and the church. Nevertheless, the season's greetings were not hindered as they were shouted across from door to door. ~~EM~~

I will be looking for your reply to my letter of November 4 with interest, and I hope that a satisfactory arrangement can be made ~~made~~ for both stations directly under our supervision the coming year.

Yours very sincerely,

Enc.

Percy Ipalook

P.S. I would appreciate it if you return these enclosures for our files in the station.

P.I.

Hercy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

March 4, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

recd 3/7/40

Dear Dr. King:

As per your letter of Dec. 19th, last, and received recently, I am mailing you two (2) Expense Vouchers herewith which in themselves are descriptive. I have written on them that the checks be made payable to me since I have already paid out for the trips with my personal checks. I trust that this procedure is satisfactory with you. This you will understand saves ~~long~~ awaiting on the part of the parties to whom payments are due.

What would you suggest how I go about in an application for my transportation expenses I shall be obliged to have in connection with our trip to the States this summer? I have been made to understand the Board will be willing to shoulder this for my much needed furlough, for both physically check-up and further study at the University of Dubuque. Would you want me to send in an Expense Voucher or should I go ahead with the trip and ask for the reimbursement at the end of the trip? Either way will be suitable to me according to your direction.

I had been at the said University the years of 1930-34, doing work both at the College and Seminary Departments. I had to do this because of the limitation of time ~~my~~ for my stay there and in view of taking missionary work in the Arctic. I have corresponded with Pres. Welch of that institution and he assures me of every possible assistance while there for the coming year. I hope to take the family with me, and am anticipating various visits I may have to churches, telling all the while of the 50th Anniversary of Presbyterian Mission activities in the Arctic. I will have with me 8mm. Movie films as well as the stereoptican slides to interest many friends concerning our work. Hope to have a complete native dress to wear unless atmospheric circumstances prevent to do the same.

I hope to be able to leave this post about the first week of August and be at Dubuque right about the opening date of the school. Sailing dates are uncertain but we hope for the best and are looking for a good year in the States.

Yours very sincerely,

Hercy Ipalook

Send this voucher direct to the Treasurer

EXPENSE VOUCHER

CHECK H

Please write nothing above this line

March 4 1940
Date

To The Board of National Missions:

This is to Certify, that I ~~will expend or~~
have expended \$ 35⁰⁰ during the
month of November 1939 for
a trip to Barrow (dog team)

This amount is provided for in the
current budget approved for the Presbytery of
Yukon and is to be
charged against the grant for

Percy Spalook
Signed

Pay to

P.O. Address to which
check is to be sent

Percy Spalook
Wainwright
Alaska

Please write nothing below this line

Audited for \$ _____ By _____

Month of _____

Compared by _____

Check mailed _____

See my letter of January 4, 1940

Received
Percy Spalook
Payment of above
4/4/40

April 2, 1940

Rev. Mr. Percy P. Ipalook
Presbyterian Church in U.S.A.
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

After being in Alaska for over a month, I feel now that I have at least a speaking knowledge of some of the problems that you men are facing, and do have a profound appreciation for the services you are rendering. I am sorry that it was impossible for me to come North. Fairbanks was the end of my Northern schedule. The next time I make my trip, I expect to include the Northernmost points.

I wish you would write me in detail your plans for next year, including the time that you expect to be away, the amount of money that you will have available to spend, and the amount of money that you anticipate needing.

Any way and every way that we can be of help, that is what we want to do.

Cordially yours,

EBK:E

**50TH YEAR
PRESBY. MISSION
IN THE ARCTIC
1890--1940**

Percy H. Ipalook
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.
Wainwright, Alaska

April 4, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King, Sec'y
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

Enclosed is an Expense Voucher for a recent trip I made to Barrow to look over the field and also to help Roy Ahmaogak in his church work. This last trip was quite significant, for whereas I had not been informed he was waiting for my arrival to take over a funeral for his grandson. He said he would not have known just how to go through with it as the parents of the child were quite touched over the loss of their child. Another important item we took care of while there was the readjustment of the membership list of Barrow Church, and which must be continued the next visit I make.

While there I sent a telegram to you and which you answered but through Roy, authorizing him to take over the Wainwright Church during my furlough this year. He was quite pleased to know that he would be obliged to send for his groceries from Seattle, which means a triple savings in his personal expenses.

For local fuel problem for the coming year, the usual requisition will be needed, viz., 10 tons of coal, 6 cases (or 60 gals.) of gasoline, 2 cases (or 20 gals.) of Kerosene. I trust this is not too late to be placed in the hands of Mr. Gould of Seattle before the annual sailing date of a freighter.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

5/7/40
\$3.00
5/7/40
45.
30.00
10
enclosed in letter of 4/10
Items ordered through Gene Smith 5/7/40
arr

Percy H. Spalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

April 4, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

On March 4th, last, I wrote you a letter and also enclosed two Expense Vouchers for successive trips I made to Barrow in the past year. Just today I have received reimbursement for one of the two trips, the second of my three trips so far, and the amount requested for that trip was \$35. So if you will only cancel that Voucher requesting for the amount above, there will be no complications about the matter. However, I have not been reimbursed for the first Barrow trip I made in July; One of the Vouchers sent you in March mail will show the amount due me is \$10.00 for that first Barrow trip. See my letter of November 4th, para. 4. Also your letter of December 19th.

Just today before the mail plane arrived I sent you the third Expense Voucher which I trust will be handled in time. This was for the third trip I made to Barrow and just last month.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Spalook

May 7, 1940

Rev. Mr. Percy P. Ipalook
Presbyterian Church
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

I am very glad to get the information about your proposed plans for the school work. I think the thing for you to do would be to make the trip and if you have the money to do so, to spend it and then send me a statement of the expense account. If you find that it is necessary to have some more money, let me know and I shall be very glad to advance you whatever amount is needed.

I am going to notify our Publicity Department that you plan to be here in the fall, and I am quite sure that you will be called upon for many speaking engagements. So your movie film will come in most handy, together with the stereopticon slides.

Cordially yours,

EBK:E

HENRY W. GREIST, M.D., D.D.

MONTICELLO, INDIANA
May 17, 1940

The Rev. John E. Youel, S.C.
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Mr. Youel:

I learn that Percy Ipalook, now stationed in Wainwright, is to have a year's absence and will attend Dubuque University further. I have suspected that he will expect to be ordained when ready to return to Alaska or that he will anticipate returning home via some point whereat presbytery is meeting and will expect ordination then. And in this connection I feel it my duty and privilege as well to again call your attention, and through you, that of presbytery to certain matters.

You will have remembered that Percy was taken under care of presbytery some time in the early years of my work in Barrow, about 1921 or 1923 possibly. He was under my immediate supervision. It was determined a little later to send him to Sheldon Jackson School and on graduation there he was on my recommendation and that of Dr. Condit permitted to enter Dubuque. On his return to his people he at once became interested in Terza Ungerook, daughter of one of my elders, and a mighty fine girl. He laid siege to her heart energetically and ere he left for Wales, where the Board sent him, he became engaged to marry her. While in Wales one or two years he carried on a rapid-fire correspondence with her, repeatedly and with great emotion alleging his undying love for the girl. He secured leave at the time of transfer to Wainwright, asserting a desire to come to Barrow for his immediate marriage. En route, he wrote Terza Ungerook that he would be in Barrow within a week or so, that it was his earnest desire to be married quickly and at once. In that letter, which I read on the request of Terza, he again vehemently alleged his undying love for the girl. Capt. John Backland, Jr., with whom he traveled in the latter's ship, had much trouble with Percy en route as he will testify. Percy proved arbitrary, incorrigible, inclined to issue orders to the crew or even to Capt. Backland himself. Backland was forced to read the riot act to Percy and to take extreme measures ere Percy quieted down. At Kotzebue Percy demanded that a boat be lowered that he might go ashore and to this Capt. Backland demurred, account the sea being too high. Percy appeared distraught, abnormal, but in the end he got ashore like one demented. Within 24 hours he married a Kotzebue girl and within seven months that girl gave birth to a baby which Percy claimed.

On coming on to Barrow without his wife, whom he at once left at Kotzebue (if I am not mistaken, he was alone on arrival in Barrow), I early sought an interview with him but he did not come to the manse for nearly a week. Then in conversation and alone I took occasion to enquire into his recent treatment of his intended, Terza, of Barrow. I rebuked him for jilting her, telling him that an engagement, as he full well knew, is regarded by the church as a serious matter, a promise to marry being thought sacred as to its obligations. I reminded him that on the very eve of his marriage to the Kotzebue girl he had written Terza of his early arrival, warmly asserting his love, undying devotion, and his expectation of her loyal support in his ministry. That three

days after his marriage to the Kotzebue girl he wrote Terza of his marriage to the other girl, having the nerve to apologize to Terza, as he termed it, and to recommend that she "get a man more suited to her age". (Terza is a little younger than the girl he married, but that is neither here nor there.)

Percy became angry, became abusive, refused to stick to the point, and with heat said: "You, Dr. Greist, presume to rebuke me for wrongdoing while you, yourself, have been guilty of immorality." I demanded to know what he might mean by that accusation which stunned me, astounded me, saying that never had I knowingly done other than my duty as I saw it and that I could and would look in the eye any woman or girl on that coast, that my skirts were clean, my conscience before God clear. He refused to qualify his words, declined to make any further statement, refused to acknowledge his fault as to jilting Terza, and left coldly saying good-bye at the door. He acted with extreme peculiarity while on that immediate coast. Nor did I ask him to appear within my pulpit. He brought his wife to Barrow finally, but she would not appear at the dining table of Percy's brother in whose house they remained for some days, remaining upstairs at all hours, day and night. She may have had her reasons, but the family knew not of them.

On going to Wainwright by orders of the Board, Percy attacked the work in Wainwright with vigor and when I would go to Wainwright quarterly to serve the Table and administer holy baptism and preach for a week, Percy acted embarrassed always. I studiously treated him with courtesy without exception, but held aloof from any intimate conversation. He appeared jealous, acted as though he considered himself superior, but I cared little and thought less of it. At no time then or less did he undertake by word or manner to apologize for his unparalleled attack in Barrow the year before.

Percy has always been a proud boy, seemingly considering himself superior to all natives and particularly to white men, wanting to get from out them all he can and jealously considering it his due. Particularly is this true since his return from Dubuque. But he did not indicate it to nearly the degree until after his licensure. Had he evidenced hauteur and superiority, had he accused me so very unjustly and so entirely falsely before I had, on authority of presbytery, subjected him to a searching examination and, following this, to licensure publicly,- had all this occurred before his licensure, then I would have flatly refused to proceed pending further orders from presbytery. But he held himself in until afterwards.

In view of all this I wish now and here to presbytery to assert my innocence as to all wrongdoing, and would emphatically state that at no time anywhere have I violated my ordination vows, that I have lived a chaste and holy life, doing my duty unflinchingly as I saw it, and carry a clean conscience before God and man. My work was peculiarly difficult in Barrow and I came into conflict with a few-- a very few-- Eskimos who sought to antagonize Session, and with not a few white men who would debauch the people whom I served. But in it all I trod the straight and narrow way, unflinchingly afraid of neither man nor devil, doing it all in the spirit of the Master insofar as in me laid. I had my enemies and some sought to discount my work through misinterpretation, misquoting me, etc. But my skirts are clean.

If now my surmises be correct in that Percy, after further study, shall apply for ordination at hands of Yukon Presbytery, or shall ask Yukon Presbytery to

3.

authorize another presbytery to ordain him, I must protest his request and would now and here ask that presbytery defer such action pending his apology to me for his so false accusation and defamation of my character. He owes it to God, to me, and himself to so do, to say nothing of the church he hopes to serve. I know not if he published to others, told others of his accusations in my study, because the Eskimos are so constituted they would hardly carry to me such reports. But he accused me to my face in midst of my proper rebuke to him, and for this I insist that he should be refused ordination until he repents in action as well as in heart. He should be forced to get from off his "high horse" of pride and superiority lest he give serious further trouble to the church and to members of presbytery.

Kindly advise what the attitude of presbytery will be in premises if you know, or when the time comes give me further opportunity to protest any action proposed. Thanking you, I remain,

Sincerely,

(signed) HENRY W. GREIST.

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

June 12, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

8/27/40 charged travel in Barrow

I am enclosing an Expense Voucher with the notation of the amount expended of \$35 for the recent trip I made to Barrow, visiting Roy Ahmaogak and the Barrow Church.

While there I was informed of Andrew Akootchook's work up eastward--Andrew being another lay-worker with a field eastward from Barrow to Demarkation Point. He is reported to have a difficult period at times due to lack of game animal on which his family is largely dependent for sustenance. There are no provisional centers for hundreds of miles at a stretch along that coast. But we are certain that this disadvantage does not in any way hinder his work and certainly does not daunt his courage. I trust that he has written you in the past year giving account of his ministry among the isolated camps where no other religious activity is carried on.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.
Wainwright, Alaska

August 3, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

attached
Your letter of May 7th, 1940 is in my hands and I am happy to know that you will assist every way possible to have our plans realized for the coming year. I also have the necessary information from various sources about the routes, fares, and the tentative schedules for sailing to Seattle from Nome.

The cheapest and most direct route to Seattle from Nome is by way of a steamship line, which I believe will be the most convenient way for us to take. I would appreciate it very much if you will forward to me the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and addressed to NOME, Alaska, which I would ask for when there at the postoffice, to be used for the steamship fare--Nome to Seattle--for two adult passengers. If that is done, I feel that it will greatly simplify our travel, and the additional expense which we will have, can be taken care of by way of an Expense Account forwarded to your office at the end of the trip to Dubuque.

I have obtained Western Clergy Fare Certificate for this year, which should help to lower the train fare expense enroute to Dubuque.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy H. Ipalook

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8/27/40
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Furlough
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for new
money
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Percy*

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

August 26, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

Recd 9/30/40
I am enclosing an Expense Voucher for the amount of ten dollars (\$10.00) which I have expended in the last trip I made to Barrow on a boat -- July 29 to Aug. 3. I will not expect to make any more trips to Barrow as we are expecting Rev. Klerekoper to be at the post any week, although I have no definite word to date.

We are expecting an Indian Affairs Office supply boat any day and by that boat I am expecting to leave Wainwright to Kotzebue, from there to pick up a steamer bound for Seattle in our much anticipated furlough within the States. Hence, any communication must be directed in care of the University of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa. I also have made this notation on the Expense Voucher enclosed herewith.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

ENC.

August 27, 1940

AIR MAIL

Mr. Percy P. Ipalook
Nome
Alaska

*Envelope marked
H. C. P. H. C. P. H. C. P.*

Dear Percy:

By air mail I am sending you this letter to Nome, with a check for \$200.00 enclosed, in keeping with your request as of August 3rd.

The additional expenses will be taken care of by way of the expense account that will be forwarded to us at the end of the journey.

I am trusting that you will be able to take the necessary courses at Dubuque during this year to warrant the Yukon Presbytery ordaining you after the year's training. Please, therefore, keep this in mind, and talk with President Welch about the courses that you ought to take in order to prepare you for the ordination service.

Trusting you will have a safe and happy journey, I am

Cordially yours,

EBK:E
enc.

October 2, 1940

Mr. Percy Ipalook
Care, University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

Your letter of August 26 addressed to Dr. King has been received during his absence on a Synod's visitation trip.

We have asked our Treasurer to send you a check for \$10 in payment of your expense incurred in making your last trip to Barrow.

We shall be glad to hear of your safe arrival at Dubuque. Wishing you success in your work, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. King

HEW:DH



HOTEL FRYE

THIRD AT YESLER



SEATTLE, WASH.

October 25, 1940

Dear Dr. King:

This will be nothing more than a note to have you know that we have arrived at Seattle and will be on the way to Dubuque tomorrow. The ocean trip from Nome has been quite trying for the wife - she being ashore most of the eleven days we were aboard. Before going on I have been resting her and the children the last three days and now they are just about rested for the three day trip for Dubuque.

I received your letter of August 27th at Nome, and that certainly has saved me much inconvenience, as I feared I would not have enough on hand for the boat transportation.

I did not get to see Rev. Klerkoper before leaving Wainwright much to our disappointment. The boat he was on brought him directly to Barrow from Pt. Hope.

Will write you as soon as settled at Dubuque. I am looking forward to a year there with keen anticipation.

Yours very sincerely,
Ferry Spalook

October 29, 1940

Mr. Percy Ipsalook
Care, Dubuque University
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Ipsalook:

Welcome to the States! I trust you had a safe and happy voyage and that you are ready now to spend a year in hard work in the University. I hope and pray it will be a profitable year for you.

I expect to be in Chicago November 14. If possible, I wish you would meet me there in the afternoon so that we could have a few hours visit together. Please let me know whether or not I can expect you.

If you can come, I shall meet you in the lobby of the Hotel Morrison at three o'clock.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

Percy W. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

~~Maine~~ ~~Alaska~~
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Nov. 2, 1940

Dear Dr. King:

I have your letter of Oct. 29. It certainly has been a trying long trip ever since Sept. 7 till last Tuesday, but together and I believe it will have been worth it all by the end of our furlough.

About our meeting in Chicago the 14th of this month. I asked the Dean of Seminary if I could be excused on that day to make it possible. He heartily approves the proposal so I will be looking forward to seeing you personally on that day in the lobby of Hotel Morrison at 3 o'clock, as you suggest. I believe it will be possible for me to leave here in the morning either by a bus or train and be in Chicago by noon or shortly after.

You will have to excuse this long hand writing as my typewriter is in our trunks, and the trunks are still in the way - expecting to have them in a week. By then I propose to send you a complete list of our travel expenditure.

I have begun my Seminary classes and I trust that this will be a profitable year not only for me but for my family as well. I know I shall enjoy the classes even if it means some sleepless nights.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

November 7, 1940

Mr. Percy Ipalook
Care, University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

I am glad you are going to meet me in Chicago
Thursday, November 14, at three o'clock in the
afternoon in the lobby of Hotel Morrison.

I shall look forward to this conference with a
great deal of pleasure.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

Mr. Percy Ipalook
Care, Dubuque University

November 7, 1940

December 16, 1940

AIRMAIL

Mr. Percy Ipalook
Care, University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

I have a letter from the Stated Clerk of Yukon Presbytery informing me that the Presbytery is going to take up the grievance against you as revealed in Dr. Greist's letter.

If you remember, while I was in Chicago I asked you for a letter with the complete story and your apology. As yet I have not received anything from you. This is a serious matter that involves your whole future. I would like to urge you to send in the letter that was requested and to do it promptly.

Sincerely yours,

EBR:DH

December 17, 1940

Mr. Percy Ipalook
Care, Dubuque University
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

Due to the difficulty we faced this past summer in securing transportation for our supplies to the North, we are asking that you have your requisition in this office by April 15, 1941.

With the added government activities in Alaska, the difficulties this summer may be increased. Therefore, in order to insure the shipment of the goods, please let me have your list not later than April 15.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
January 4, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King, Sec'y
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. King:

I am enclosing two copies, one original and a carbon copy of my answer to the charges Dr. Greist made in his letter to Rev. Youel. The copy of his letter is also enclosed herewith. Will it be asking too much if you may send me a similar copy for my personal reference. I could have copied out the contents of his letter but since this matter is under your hands I did not want to do that without your permission.

I am very sorry for the delay of this submission. Various factors contributed to this fact in addition ~~that~~ to working this out without having it known to my wife. Then the whole family has been inflicted with serious colds for weeks, including myself.

I trust the enclosed will answer your request, and should there be any question about it, kindly let me know.

Yours very sincerely,

Tracy A. Gracov

Enc.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Whereas, a letter has been issued by Dr. Henry W. Greist of Monticello, Indiana, dated May 17, 1940, and directed to Rev. John E. Youel of Fairbanks, Alaska, concerning my personal character, and
Whereas, charges within the said letter must be clarified, I count it as my duty to present the following facts in answer to the accusations made in the said letter:

In para. 2

1. It is not known to me that Dr. Greist had any influence on my entering Dubuque University in 1930. Through Dr. J.M. Condit's assistance and recommendation I was privileged to enter the University after five years at Sheldon Jackson School. Upon returning to Barrow in 1934 Dr. Greist was disappointed over the fact that University of Dubuque Seminary was inclined to post-millennialism rather than to his status-the pre-millennialism.
2. I secured a leave of absence at time of transfer to Wainwright from Wales, not to marry Terza as Dr. Greist asserted, but to secure for myself a year's supply from Barrow Mission. I had left my order from the States at Wales for my successor under the order of the Board through Dr. Somerndike. (See Dr. Som.'s letter, May 3, 1935.)
3. I wrote my last letter to Terza about February, 1935. (See my letter to Rev. Youel August 26, 1935, last sec. of para. 3.) I left Wales for Wainwright of that year in the last week of June. Dr. Greist will have to produce a letter he intimated I wrote "en-route" to Barrow to prove his intimation.
4. I cannot recall when I gave orders to the crew as well as to the Captain while on board Captain Backland's boat. At the time it was clear enough for me to understand who was the Master of the vessel. It was true Capt. Backland and I had a misunderstanding over one issue enroute to Barrow, but the result over that would not justify Dr. Greist's accusations that the Captain "read the riot act" and his "extreme measures " directed to me.
5. I definitely deny the justification for the statement Dr. Greist wrote, " At Kotzebue mercy demanded that a boat be lowered so that he might go ashore and to this Capt. Backland demurred, account the sea being too high." In the first place, there was no high sea in the two days we were marooned in Kotzebue Sound. It was very calm, as I recall, but there was a heavy floating ice going back and forth around the ship, anchored twelve miles out from the village. This was prompted by a strong current flowing out of Wootak and Kobuck Rivers, thus making it impossible to venture out with a small boat among the ice till it was cleared away. After the Sound was cleared of ice, Mr. Dick Hall (Backland's trading partner at Wainwright) and I under the suggestion of the Captain made our way to the village with a small boat motored with an "Out-board". Dick Hall was to see about the lighterage of goods for that village. The adjectives used in describing my character at this point would be enough to place any man in an insane asylum. There were civil authorities in that village who had handled such cases, but strange if that were my character, they did not approach my person to do their duty.
6. Mr. Dick Hall and I got ashore at Kotzebue the 6th of July. Esther and I were married the 14th of that month, fully eight days after and not "within 24 hours" as the accuser intimated. From the Government Official Marriage and Birth Certificates I can show the first child was born after over seven months from date of marriage.

Para. 3

1. There were no accommodations on Backland's boat for passengers, therefore Esther could not come up with me on the same boat, but was forced to wait five weeks before "North Star" came to pick her up to our post.
2. I came over to the Barrow Mission grounds the very next day after our arrival. I was to secure grocery goods from the Station. Wishing to ship the same by the boat I came up, I was obliged to act almost immediately on that point.

Para. 4

1. I recall our private conversation very distinctly. If I were angry, I was not more than Dr. Greist was that afternoon. At this point I wish to answer and make

clear the quoted statement he asserted I made at the time. I deny very firmly that I accused Dr. Greist of being "guilty of immorality." Why should I make the accusation for which I cannot account? Accusing ~~me~~ Dr. Greist of such had been beyond my imagination, and still is today, for I know of no act of his that would justify my intimated accusation. However, I did bring out a few rumored intimations I had heard concerning Dr. Greist, which, if true, would be unbecoming to a missionary, or a minister. And right here I wish to apologize that I am very sorry in the course of heated argument Dr. Greist was made to understand I accused him of immorality, which I had never intended. It must be also understood that Dr. Greist was and is defective in hearing. In my acquaintance with him time and again we had to restate our words for him to get our meaning. I take his position with me nothing more than a misunderstanding and misquoting.

2. Dr. Greist has forgotten his invitation for me to preach for him at Barrow in May, 1936. I had to come to Barrow from Wainwright to wire the Board concerning the proposed church building at Wainwright. I could not accommodate his kindness due to the hurried trip back I had to make and care for our own Sunday services. But one thing no doubt he has not forgotten is the fact his invitation for me to interpret for him at Barrow Church. This was in September, 1936, in welcoming Rev. Klerokoper to Barrow Church and of his farewell address. Rev. Klerokoper can testify to this in recalling his first Sunday at Barrow. In my mind this is no less than an invitation to preach in "Dr. Greist's pulpit."

3. Esther came to Barrow on the "North Star" in 1935. In the five-day trip she was on board she was sea-sick all the way and quite weak from its effect when she arrived at Barrow. It is true in a bed-room upstairs of my brother's house she rested the first three hours after arrival. After only three hours she was about and ate all of her meals with us downstairs. Not only that, that very same afternoon Esther and I walked over to the church building, passing the Manse within 200 feet. If Dr. Greist would be so observant of every move of Esther why did he fail to see us passing by the Manse that afternoon? We visited some of my friends together in the village. We walked a mile over to Brower station to see the Brower girls Esther got acquainted with on the boat. Naturally, all of these Dr. Greist would not be aware of, much less informed of unless he probed into our family affair, instead of being busy over matters that annual boat usually incites in the Arctic. His statement that Esther was abed "at all hours, night and day" is lack of courtesy to my wife, to say the least, and here he is in danger of being attacked to tell the untruth.

Para. 5

Dr. Greist will have to clear himself in what was I "acted embarrassed always" during his visits to Wainwright to serve the Table and administer holy baptism. As I recall these periods were always the important days for our mission when I heartily would welcome him to assist us in the work we were not able to handle ourselves. I hope he has not forgotten the sociable evening repasts we used to share together at the expense of Esther's elaborate preparation for the occasion and in his honor. It was at times like those our unfortunate event in 1935 was obliterated to the misty past and forgotten at the time. This was also true in his home when I made my visits to Barrow and accepted his hospitality.

Para. 6

If I have "always been a proud boy, seemingly considering himself superior to all natives and particularly to white men, wanting to get from out them all he can and jealously considering his due," why did Dr. Greist vigorously and persistently persuaded me to leave Barrow in 1925 for Sitta, in view of preparation for mission work at the end, when I was given the opportunity to take up teaching and work myself to a well-salaried position, as has my brother, without leaving home? Or, is this paragraph primarily a personal matter of prejudice after the unfortunate incident in 1935? Apparently, he has forgotten my interpreting for him in his church services for two full years--every week--without a penny in remuneration--nor had I expected any at the time.

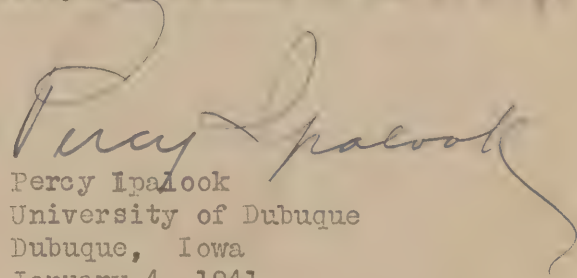
Para. 7

Dr. Greist expresses here an unnecessary worryment he has had over his belief that I accused him falsely. This is answered in paragraph 4. Dr. Greist's "conflict" with Eskimos was not with "a very few" when the Barrow Church membership was divided to two groups, as well as the session that was divided in two, when an issue came up over the native dance question. This matter--as related to me afterwards--should have been brought before the Presbytery for proper adjustment for this reason. In one occasion ~~some~~ some church members were denied partaking in the Lord's Table because they viewed a native dance on the side lines which may be compared to going to a movie show in the States. If Dr. Greist is subject to "misinterpretation" and "misquoting", I am no less than he.

Para. 8

The last sentence of this paragraph demands a personal reflection with my connection to the presbytery. Any person who "should be forced" to be inflicted with a sentence has no place to be a member of any Presbytery. Any member within a Presbytery who intends to "give serious trouble to the church and to members of Presbytery" must not only be eliminated, but is not worthy to be even a member of any Presbyterian Church, as far as I can see. After all, the Church is for construction--building the Kingdom for Christ--and not for destruction. Basing my firm conviction on this principle, I covet membership in the Yukon Presbytery, as layman or ordained; but should I fall short of that conviction, it will be clearly understood when and if I should be requested, not forced, to drop my membership from the said Presbytery.

The above is Respectfully Submitted to the Yukon Presbytery, through the Secretary of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.


Percy Ipaalook
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
January 4, 1941

Note:

For further details on the subject see:

My letters to Dr. Somerndike, April 19, 1935
to Rev. Youel, August 26, 1935

Dr. Somerndike's letters to me: May 21 and June 29, 1935.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Whereas, a letter has been issued by Dr. Henry W. Greist of Monticello, Indiana, dated May 17, 1940, and directed to Rev. John S. Vowel of Airbanks, Alaska, concerning my personal character, and whereas, charges within the said letter must be clarified, I count it as my duty to present the following facts in answer to the accusations made in the said letter.

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2. I secured a leave of absence at time of transfer to Wainwright from Wales, not to marry Perza as Dr. Greist asserted, but to secure for myself a year's supply from Barrow Mission. I had left my order from the States at Wales for my successor under the order of the Board through Dr. Bonerndike. (See Dr. Bonerndike's letter, May 3, 1935.)
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The above is respectfully submitted to the Yukon Presbytery, through the Secretary of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Percy Ipalook
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
January 4, 1941

Note:

For further details on the subject see:

My letters to Dr. Somerndike, April 19, 1935
to Rev. Youel, August 26, 1935

Dr. Somerndike's letters to me: May 21 and June 29, 1935.

January 21, 1941

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Care, University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

Thank you for sending me the statements relative to the situation that exists between you and Dr. Greist. I am filing this information and it will not be used unless it is necessary. Unless it is used, there will be no need for you to keep a copy of the letter.

I have the statement of your transportation expense and I am checking the amounts before sending you the reimbursement. F.F.A.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

ALASKA

March 5, 1941

Mr. Percy Ipalook
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

I need an appraisal of our Alaskan Work. Please, therefore, write me in detail immediately your own appraisal of our work in Barrow and in Wainwright. In order to help you develop this appraisal, I am herewith stating some of the information that I am anxious to secure.

1. State the population of your community, giving the white and native population. Give a brief description of the community.
2. Name the other churches or religious forces that are serving in your community, giving the strength of these forces.
3. Describe our church property. Who holds the title? Give the cost of construction and the actual value. State the condition of repair.
4. Describe your church program. Give the membership and attendance at worship service, Sunday School, young people's organization and midweek service.
5. In your opinion what is the future for our church in your community? Give reasons for your opinion.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
April 12, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

I am enclosing herewith a complete requisition for Wainwright Presbyterian Mission for the coming year. The grocery is for me personally and the cost of that is to be taken out of my salary as heretofore.

As per our conference at Chicago last fall, about the purchase of coal, I am submitting the following facts for your consideration which will not only save the Board some money, but which will provide our natives at Wainwright some work;

The former method of securing coal for Wainwright:

10 Tons Utah Coal	@ 11.25	112.50
10 Tons FREIGHT for same	@ 30.00	300.00
Board pays for 10 T coal plus Wharfage & Handling		412.50

The Proposal:

5 Tons Utah Coal	@ 11.25	56.25
5 Tons Freight for same	@ 30.00	150.00
175 Empty Coal Sacks	@ .05	8.75
175 Sacks Coal Purchased from Wainwright natives		131.25
We would have to pay for this year's coal		346.25

From this we can easily see a saving of \$66.25 outright if not more. It would be necessary to have the amount of \$131.25 at hand at the beginning of the year to purchase the coal with as that coal must be bought before freeze-up in October.

You will also note that we are asking for 5 tons "Outside" coal. This I am obliged to do for ~~far~~ fear that when we are back there will not be any coal on hand for sometime, if the weather should hold the natives from getting that coal. And then again I have had the distressing news from home that most natives have been losing their dogs this winter, on account dog starvation. The use of dog teams is the main means of getting coal from a twenty mile coal field.

Another favorable angle of purchasing coal from the natives. We may use this proposal as part of our Stewardship program even if to a small extent. Some coal can be donated by the congregation and the amount prescribed for the donated coal may be returned to the Board. I believe there will be some men who will favor this object, even if it meant sacrifice on their part. I say this knowing too well the economic situation of the people of the North.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Shalook

ENC.

April 14, 1941

Mr. Percy Ipalook
Dubuque University
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

Your letter containing the information about Wainwright has been received. Thank you for this helpful information. Please see to it that the requisition for Wainwright is in my hands by the fifteenth of this month.

By way of caution, I am going to have to remind you that it will not be necessary for us to pay flying expenses for you on your return trip. We are trying to work it out so that you can be ordained in Dubuque and then go directly from Seattle home. The Board is not financially able to pay your flying expenses. The Board will be able to take care of your expenses only from Seattle back home.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

April 29, 1941

Mr. Percy Ipalock
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

In making your plans to return to Wainwright, I am going to have to insist that you travel the most economical way. Because of our limited funds we are not going to be in a position to grant you expense money for additional time out, as we did when you came to the States. In other words, you may count on the Board of National Missions paying your transportation expenses directly from Seattle to Wainwright. Whatever additional expenses are involved, it will be necessary for you to take care of that out of your own funds.

Cordially yours,

BBK:TTL

ALASKA

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
April 30, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. King:

I am enclosing the usual "furlough" monthly blank for the month of May, and which may be my last before leaving for home. I have no definite knowledge just when we will be starting for Alaska, since that will have to depend on the sailing schedule of Alaska S.S. Co. of Seattle, and also to the general condition of my boys some of whom will have to undergo minor operations before we leave Dubuque. I have a general idea that we may be leaving here about the latter part of May and perhaps the first week of June, but there is hard to tell when we may be leaving from Seattle until I receive their schedule which I hope to have before very long.

I wish to have you know also, if the Dubuque Presbytery had not informed you already, that through the generosity of Yukon Presbytery and the courtesy of Dubuque Presbytery, I have been examined and ordained to the ministry by the latter on April 17, 1941. I understand this was possible largely through your interest and request on the two Presbyteries, and for which I wish to thank you. I can feel that more responsibility will be placed which heretofore I had not experienced. And on the other hand, I hope our work in the Arctic will receive benefit now that I can serve as a full-fledged minister of the Gospel.

I trust that the requisition for the coming year has been received in your office long before this, and that the way for its transport will not be obstructed.

Yours verys sincerely,

Percy Spalock

May 2, 1941

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

I have your letter of April 30th in which you tell about your ordination service. Permit me to extend to you my sincere and hearty congratulations. May you ever have a growing sense of the responsibility that is now yours since the hands have been placed upon your head. You have definitely been set aside as a vessel for the Lord's service. You will do well to remember that your power is with Him and through Him and not of yourself

In a letter from Yukon Presbytery I was informed that you did not keep the Presbytery posted about your activities. The complaint was made that you did not write the Chairman of the Committee on Christian Education and that you ignored all communications that were received from the Presbytery. Of course, you are aware of the fact that the seat of authority is in the Presbytery in our Presbyterian Church. You must recognize this authority and in all ways cooperate with the Presbytery. In case you have been careless and negligent in your communications with the Presbytery of Yukon, I am now going to insist that you give due care to all such matters. You cannot afford to ignore and to neglect the communications from your Presbytery.

I shall look forward to hearing definite information about your returning plans.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

May 5, 1941

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

Since you are the first Eskimo in Alaska to receive the honor of ordination I feel that it would be a lost opportunity not to have some publicity on this notable event. I am, therefore, asking you to write me a short story of your life - about 1200 or 1500 words. Of course, your relationship to the Presbyterian Church will be interesting throughout your story.

If possible I would like to have this material in my hands within the next thirty days. If you have any Kodak pictures of your work in Wainwright or of the work at Barrow, please send them along.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
May 16, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

attached

I have your letter of May 5th, and hope to be working on your request next week so that you may have the material before or on the first of June. I will be looking over the album and some of the old Kodak prints which I have to substantiate the story asked for. We may not be able to leave Dubuque till about the middle of June. Will let you know when the definite plans are formulated for the homeward trip.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

May 28, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

I do hope that it will be possible for you to
send me the article as requested about your life together
with the Kodak pictures before your return to Wainwright.
I would like very much to publish this information soon.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
June 23, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

The final arrangements for our trip have been made as far as to Nome. From Nome on to Wainwright the prospects are uncertain as you will note from Mr. Ummel's letter enclosed. We are to leave Dubuque by rail to Seattle on or about the 2nd of July. From Seattle we are to sail on the SS. COLUMBIA on the 9th, and this for Nome only. I have been made to understand the Board pays travel expenses to and from Seattle only from the mission stations. Hence, I am submitting the amount which may bring us to ~~Wainwright~~ ^{NOME} from Seattle:

Alaska Steamship Co.	2 Adult Fares	@ \$100.00	\$200.00
	1 Child (5 yrs.)		50.00
	2 Children (under 3)	15.50	31.00
			<u>\$281.00</u>

I do not know what way and how much the travel expense will be from Nome to Wainwright. I am counting on taking the family right on to Kotzebue as soon as landed at Nome to avoid the exorbitant lodging and sustenance expenses at Nome. At Kotzebue we will have very little of that if any. From our communications last fall about our expenses and air travels, I gathered you understood we put in a long stay at Kotzebue intentionally just to be with my wife's folks. I was obliged to ~~do~~ do that for two reasons, first, to avoid a large expense we would have to take in a long wait for the steamer at Nome, had we gone on; second, to ascertain in catching the boat at Nome for Seattle at that particular sailing, which we would have missed had we been on the North Star instead of flying to Nome. Another thing our being on North Star would have cost us just about the same amount we paid for the plane fare, for it would have been about a month on the boat, and a chance of missing the Steamer, the next being due there about four weeks later. I trust that from our traveling experiences last fall, and that of Klerekopers in going back to Barrow, and from Mr. Ummel's letter enclosed, you will have a general idea of the uncertainty we must face when traveling within the Arctic.

I do not intend to charter a plane from Kotzebue to Wainwright. The chances are that a plane may possibly make some trips to Barrow and Wainwright during July and August since there is to be no passenger boat going north, and by mere chance there may be a space for us to get on at a very reasonable rate. I am not so keen in taking my family to plane traveling especially along that isolated country and over the dangerous mountains.

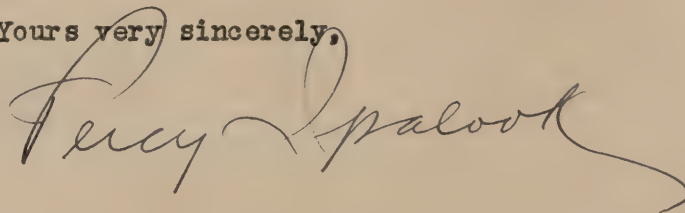
Will it be possible for you to advance me my two months' salary at this time? We have exhausted what little savings we have had due to the high standard of living in the States. I am in need of it at the present to meet the train fare from Dubuque to Seattle which will amount to \$85 on tourist train and clergy fare for me. The children's fare is exempted on the line we are taking. I would appreciate it very much if that is possible. We must also meet my wife's dental fee for a set of plate which was necessary for her to have. She is still under treatment on that point and the rough estimation is \$60 for that work. About the same time she had undergone a foot operation with a two day Hospitalization, the Hospital fee amounting to \$18, which I paid already. But the surgeon's fee is still coming and since she is under treatment. I have no idea how much it will be. I am letting my dental defects pass on for the present, although there are some fillings to be done. My optical adjustments will have to wait also for a number of years. The eye specialist last fall in examining my eyes said a minor extraction from both eyes was necessary to overcome the ~~xx~~ trouble I have at certain times especially in the spring with the glare of sunlight on the snow.

What have you decided to do about our coal problem at Wainwright? If you are sending us five tons of coal this year from Seattle, will it be possible to let us have the amount of \$130 to purchase the rest of coal we must have at Wainwright, as stated in my letter of April 12?

I have written the general manuscript of my life story you have asked for some time ago. But it needs to be revised and abridged before I send it on. I am sorry it has been delayed thus far, but with the family situation I was in the last three weeks I trust you will understand. I hope to have it mailed either tomorrow or the next day. The pictures to accompany the story are not in hand as yet, since I have my prints made in Chicago.

It would accomodate us greatly if you mail us your reply via Air Mail.

Yours very sincerely,



ENC.

Letters: ASCo. Ummel

June 27, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Dubuque University
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Percy:

Enclosed you will find a check for \$281 to cover the expenses for the steamship tickets. When you have the additional expenses itemized let me know and I shall be glad to reimburse you.

I am also sending you a check for \$267.08 which will represent your salary advance for the next three months less your pension dues.

We ordered according to your request five tons of coal and will expect you to provide the balance as needed when you arrive on the field. We will be glad to supply you with the money that is necessary up to \$130. for the purchase price in Wainwright.

Your manuscript of your life story has just been received. I have not had time to check it but am very glad to receive it.

I trust that you will have a pleasant journey back home. May the blessing and the protection of the Lord go with you.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
June 24, 1941

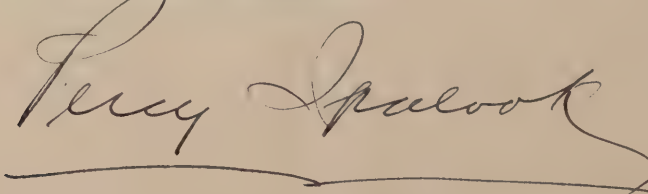
Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

Enclosed is the belated manuscript of self narra-
tion and a few snap-shots to accompany it. I am aware that you might
not use all the prints but am sending them for you to choose what you
may use.

I am sorry that this has to come so late but I trust my note
on this point in my last letter will explain my situation.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Percy Ipalook". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Percy Ipalook".

P. S.

You may find it to make some changes in the narrative, and this I
will leave to your judgment.

P.I.

ALASKA

University of Dubuque
Dubuque, Iowa
June 30, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

This is to acknowledge your letter of 27th, inst., and to thank you for the two separate checks, one of which is an advance for my next three months' salary. This will greatly simplify our travel to Wainwright and all things going well throughout the long journey home, we should be there about or shortly after the middle of August. We are anticipating to be settled once again after a very valuable furlough in Dubuque.

I trust that Rev Klerekoper has brought us last year a Communion set and some Hymn books which we had been so badly needing. He was going to make special effort to secure those things for our station of Wainwright.

In the coming year will it be possible to extend our Sunday School material and helps for Wainwright ? We had been receiving about 25 West. Lesson Leaflets, 4 Junior Quarterlies, and 1 West. Lesson Teacher. We would be greatly helped if Lesson Leaflets are doubled, Junior Quarterlies reduced to 2, and 6 Lesson Teacher. For the children - 30 Primary Lesson Leaflets, and 20 West. Lesson Cards. I hope these may be available sometime, if not this year. Should there need be for immediate communication I may be reached through Dr. James Thompson, 1203 American ^{Bank} Bldg., Seattle. Yours very sincerely,
Percy Halvok
Enc. Rep.Blnk.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Narrative Report - August 15 to Sept. 14, 1941

Three outstanding incidents may comprise our narrative report for the month, first of which is --

Our arrival to the Station. Having spent a year in Dubuque, Iowa, our family was happy to be back again. We left Dubuque the 2nd of July and arrived here August 15th, with delayed stops at Seattle, Nome and Kotzebue.

The most outstanding event of the month, and perhaps of the year, is --

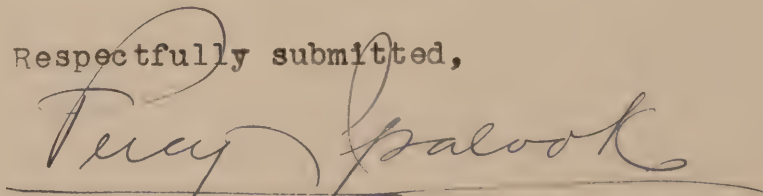
The visit of our National Missions Secretary, Dr. E.B. King from "156". Along with Dr. King was Rev. Armstrong, pastor of Fairbanks Church. This event is outstanding because in sixteen years' time this is the first visit of the Board Secretary who is directly in supervision of the Missions in the Arctic. This visit was topped with an evening service where Dr. King preached for us, and several young people presented themselves in re-affirmation of faith in Jesus Christ.

The last incident is not so fortunate to the missionary ~~since~~ since this was --

The illness and the trip to Pt. Barrow for Hospitalization. Unfortunately, this coincided with Dr. King's visit to our station, and still the trip for Barrow was possible only by the plane which Dr. King had chartered for the Arctic visits. At this writing the missionary is slowly on the way to complete recovery.

The month has been eventful. The annual visit of the United States Coast Guard Cutter and the arrival of the supply ship which brought us our yearly supply are events we always look for with keen interest.

Respectfully submitted,



Note:

The Statistical Report is filled out completely from reports given in of activities from Roy Ahmaogak and the elders who took charge of the services while the missionary was ill.

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Rev. Percy Spalook - Wainwright, Alaska
Church Wainwright Presbyterian Church

Date October 13, 1941

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

The beginning of the past quarter year finds our mission served by a layman and ruling elder of Barrow Church, Roy Ikmaogak.

From our furlocash we arrived back to the mission on the 15th of August. Roy stayed till 2nd of September before transferred back to Barrow.

Dr. E. B. King, directly in charge of our churches in Alaska visited, Wainwright the 25th of August. With Dr. King was Rev. Armstrong of Fairbanks Church. In their honor a special church service was held when practically the whole village "turned out."

By the time of their arrival the writer took to illness and was obliged to be taken to Barrow for a doctor's care. During my recuperatory period I spent a great part of my time with our Barrow missionaries the Alekopoulos. Several hours were happily spent together each day in sessions of "school". They, the ardent learners; I, the schoolmaster. The subject: The Mastery of the Eskimo tongue. By the time I left both had very well with the course. We hope in time their full knowledge of the native tongue will benefit greatly our missionary work in the Arctic in a specific form. Along with all of this we were able to keep along in preaching within the home church, and enjoying discussions of theological questions and local church problems — the times which a minister gets "lumpy" for especially when isolated out of fellow-ministers. The illness had its full sway of raining the body, but the belated stay at Barrow had its blessings which only spirituality can appreciate.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

October 14, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

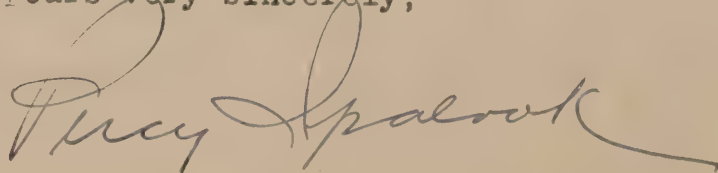
Dear Dr. King:

I have a contract of insurance with the Presbyterian Ministers' Fund of Philadelphia, of which the yearly premium is \$16.98. The enclosed card will show that my payment was due the first of this month for the current year. At the present I am not able to meet the remittance from this point and I am wondering if it could not be taken care of through your office. That is, if possible, please pay the premium for me and deduct the amount from my next monthly check soon after this letter is received. I am writing the Ministers' Fund to this effect and trust that everything will be clear with you and the Fund.

I have been home from Barrow since the first of this month, and outside of one small attack I am feeling quite well. I have been advised to take things a little easier than I would like to, for there are so many things to take care of after a year out and six weeks after illness. However, I count the days I have had at Barrow as valuable for that gave me and Rev. Klerekoper a chance to go through problems together. Then again I have had a chance to be with my beloved mother in her last days while there, since she is now gone and on the 10th of this month.

The family is fine and we are looking forward to a busy year after a year out.

Yours very sincerely,



Enc.
cc. MFund

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

October 16, 1941

Narrative Report -- Sept. 15 to Oct. 14, 1941

As in the last report the Church activities in the early part of the month were in the care of the ruling elders. However, the services were obstructed by "flu" that was prevalent in the village.

As soon as transportation was available, the missionary came back from Barrow on the first of October. With much to do on hand we began activities as soon^{as} arrived. Finding to our inconvenience the illness took attack again and retarded our work for about ten days.

On the 5th of October we observed the World-Wide Communion Sunday. On this day nine young people were received into membership on profession of faith. Nine infants and one adult were administered the Holy Sacrament of Baptism.

It is gratifying to know that out of initiative several members of the Church have collected money in anticipation of giving an offering at the Communion service. Consequently, the total amount offered and collected sums up to twelve dollars, which we are forwarding to the Board of National Missions.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

October 17, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright
Alaska

Dear Percy:

I hope that you have completely recovered from your physical trouble and that everything is normal with you long before this time. I have thought about you a good many times. It certainly was a godsend that our plane should have been in Wainwright at that particular time.

In looking forward to your requisition for next year here are some definite instructions that I wish you would follow very carefully:

1. Be sure your list complete is in the New York office not later than April 1, 1942.
2. Due to prices and other conditions we are asking that you do not designate the brands for the food that you order. Give us the leeway to buy the best that we can find with the money that we have to use.
3. There will not be any more orders sent of kerosene in the five gallon cans. We will send the kerosene in larger containers. We have found that it is cheaper.
4. Please save your oil drums with the stoppers and next year when the boat arrives ship them back to Seattle. We have found that it may be possible to save several dollars on each drum. Of course, only those that are in first class condition should be ship and we shall expect you to carefully inspect the drums.

Cordially yours,

October 30, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I have notice from the Board of Christian Education that they are shipping to you fifty VESPER CHIMES for our church there at Wainwright. I am quite sure that you will want to write directly to Mr. W. L. Jenkins, Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and express the appreciation of the church for these books.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

ALASKA

November 3, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

According to your request we are sending a check for \$16.98 to the Presbyterian Ministers Fund to cover the premium due on your insurance policy.

I am glad to know that you are back again in Wainwright and that you have recovered from the recent illness. I have been rather distressed about you and wondered many, many times what the outcome was.

I am sorry to note that you lost your mother. Please accept my sincere sympathy. No matter how long we keep our loved ones it is never easy to give them up. Give my regards to your family

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

ALASKA

November 12, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipsalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

Enclosed we are sending you your salary check for November in the amount of \$76.11. You will note that instead of deducting \$16.98, as previously indicated, covering the premium on your policy with the Presbyterian Ministers Fund, we have deducted only \$12.90. This is due to the fact that they returned the amount of \$4.08, stating that this was a cash dividend due you which should have been deducted from the premium.

I hope that you are feeling fine now and that the work is progressing nicely.

Cordially yours,

McE
Enc.

The Percy Hobbins

Wainwright

Change from 10/17/41 to 10/17/41 below

so that we may receive

6 Junior

50 Junior

30 Primary Quarterly

2 Junior Year

20 cards

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

November 18, 1941

Narrative Report - October 15 to November 14, 1941

With our Church program fully in swing again, the month sped by, and found us in preparation for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. First of all, the Sunday School Teachers' Study was resumed with eleven teachers enrolled who are interested in that particular work. Not all eleven teach at the same time - for we must have substitutes when some men are out afield in hunting - but there are some who are "in training" for teaching some future class.

In preparation for Thanksgiving Day service we turn out between 50 and 60 young people for choir rehearsals. Our Eskimo young people enjoy group singing, and what a time we have in practising "special selections" !

In the course of the month, some of our members received communications from their children who have left us in the past summer for "higher education" further south of us. In a part our elder redeived a word from her daughter -

* Every Sunday I always remember home and feel a little bit homesick for church, especially Sunday School. I miss Sunday School a lot. . . . It is a great help when we are away from home and remember a verse (Bible) or even a small word (meaning from Sunday School Lesson or a sermon) ".

The Sunday School has a large place in our work within the Arctic Missions.

Respectfully submitted,


Percy Ipalook

December 8, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

This is to notify you that the amount of \$565.99 is being charged against your 1941-42 salary on account of personal supplies. This amount will be deducted from your salary in the following manner:

From December 1941 through August 1942	\$56.59 per month
September 1942	56.68

As soon as we have completed the check on Maintenance bills we will let you know the amount of these and will send you copies of the bills for your information.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Narrative Report for Nov. 15 to Dec. 14, 1941

Thanksgiving Day found us with a crowded assembly in the Morning Service, well over 200 in attendance as the boy counted out. In the afternoon our annual Feast was held within the Church building. There were 260 individuals and the floor space just 26 feet by 40 feet!

In the course of the month we formed our Sunday School Teachers to an organization wherein each teacher may contribute helpful suggestions for the betterment of our Sunday School. By so doing we think we can draw out initiative from teachers which otherwise they leave all to either the missionary or the superintendent.

We are no longer isolated from the conflicts of the world. By the advantages of radio reception we learned of an attack made on our nation the very same day. The writer recalls when at Pt. Barrow we knew nothing of the Armistice of 1918 till a day before Christmas. Our native boys are subject for military service in the present war, some already drafted and more expected to be. This will have been the first in the history of the Eskimos of Alaska. Our prayers are for our nation as well as for the world peace.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

*Miss Gandy?
Perhaps you
can use these
for Monday
to Monday
with her*

December 18, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

Enclosed we are sending you the bills covering the supplies purchased for Barrow this year. We have itemized them to show just where the charges were made. If there are any questions which you may have after you have studied the bills, do not hesitate to write us.

Please remember to save your oil drums to be shipped back to Seattle as we may be able to save some money on the oil shipments.

It is essential that all requisitions for supplies for 1942 be in the office not later than April 1, 1942. With the outbreak of the war it will be more difficult than ever to secure space for our Alaskan supplies so it is very important that these orders be on hand as early as possible and not later than April 1st to insure your receipt of them.

Cordially yours,

McE
Enc.

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Rev. Percy Paulson

Church Bainwright Presbyterian

Date January 6, 1942

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

In our monthly narrative report dated in October we inserted the following paragraph:

"In the 5th of October we observed the Broad-Wide Communion Sunday. In this day nine young people were received into membership on profession of faith. Nine infants and one adult were administered the Holy Sacrament of Baptism." In any Reformed Church this could have been a common report. "Observed... Communion Sunday. young people received into membership infants adult administered Holy Baptism."

To us and the Mission Station there is a real significance connected with the occasion. To me, if I may so freely reflect the event, it was something majestic and solemn, yet withstanding there was something intertwined as challenging. Was it real? Could it be true? Fifty-one years ago a modern St. Paul had opened the country for Christianization. Only half a century later the self-acclaimed Church of Jesus Christ pronounced "by that authority which He has given to His Church, declare you to be ordained to the office of the holy ministry" upon member of a singular race known to the civilized world as the Ephimo.

It was significant to our Station for it was the first occasion wherein the Holy Sacraments were administered by the resident missionary. Others had been served by visiting missionaries, principally from Barron Mission.

It was challenging for it may either open or bar the way for others among our race for a life consecration. "Go ye," says our Master. We need to learn to "go" out of

the 'old', and proceed on with the gospel
of the "new".

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

January 16, 1942

Narrative Report for Dec. 15 -- Jan. 14, 1942

Christmas Rush in the Arctic! Along with the rest of the world this seems to be our lot every year, although not necessarily with shopping nor mailing. Preparations for special programs included our choir rehearsals. Packaging mission gifts always brings us joy for we knew some little child's heart would be brightened with a worn-out toy or a bit of garment sent us from the missionary societies thousands of miles away. To heighten ^{our} rush there was the popping of corn and sacking it along with candy and ~~xpxxxxxx~~ peanut -- what we have on hand must be made enough to go around to every one.

The mid-night Watch was observed on New Year's Eve. This was attended to the full capacity of our Church building.

On the first Sunday of the New year the Holy Communion was served our congregation. Six young people were admitted to membership on Profession of Faith and four small children baptized.

The second Sunday of the month (Dec. 28) we experienced a very heavy storm -- blizzard so blinding one could hardly see a building fifty feet away. Notwithstanding, worshippers came and although not large in number as usual, the Day was used as a day of rest and worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

January 21, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

Your letter brought the information that I have been hoping to receive for a long time and that is relative to your illness that caused you to have to go to the hospital in Barrow. I am very glad to note that you are apparently well and strong again.

I am delighted that you had such a fine response to the World Wide Communion Service.

In your letter you enclosed a statement of a contribution of \$12. from Wainwright but there was no check enclosed. This was the amount of money collected in the offering at the Communion Service. I am sure that you will take care of this oversight.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

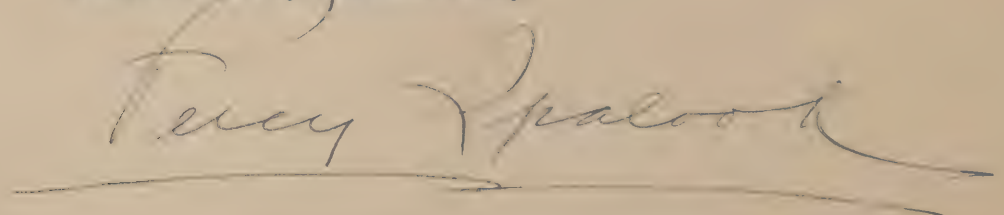
February 16, 1942

Narrative Report for Jan. 15 to Feb. 14, 1942 --

We have begun the young people's Prayer Meetings and this month marks its full swing in activity. Our primary aim in launching this endeavor is encouragement in Bible reading and study. Practical application of such reading and study is stressed to those who participate in these meetings.

We have had a funeral for a young mother - a victim of a common disease among the Eskimo - the tuberculosis. Mrs. Segevan leaves to mourn her beloved husband, three small sons, her parents, grandparents, three sisters, and many other relatives and friends. Through it all there was a complete resignation to God and Maker for the eventuality on the part of both the deceased and near kins. "Peace I leave with you," was certainly a revelation in this incident.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Percy Ipalook", written over a horizontal line.

enc.

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m y v
return to Dr King

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

March 16, 1942

Monday morning

(used Apr. 28)

Narrative Report for Feb. 15 to Mar. 14, 1942 -----

The "Flu" in village retarded our church program the early part of the month. The only nurse we have had for some years was transferred to Barrow to take the place of a doctor who was called "out" for war emergency. Now extra care must be taken to prevent possible spread of any disease, even if a common "flu".

In the course of the month I went smelt fishing three miles off the village along with other villagers. At the end of seven or eight hours' fishing, we all turned home and not far from the village stopped for a rest in our trek. Each ask the other what "luck" there was in that day's endeavor. Invariably, the answer was the same, "We eat supper tonight"--meaning there was a catch of about ten or twelve pounds of small fish just sufficient to make one meal for a family. Others call fishing a "sport", but here it is a necessity to keep body and soul together. If it had not been for that morsel caught during the day, a day without an evening meal was certain or begging for a neighbor's helping hand. In such a background one, ministering to the souls of these people, often resorts to passages such as this: "Do not be anxious, therefore, about to-morrow, for to-morrow will bring its own anxieties. Enough for each day is its own trouble." (Weymouth)

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From

Church

Date

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

We began the New Year as well as the last quarter with a high right word on New Year Eve. Special effort was stressed to instill to our congregation the seriousness of our country being in war — and that as a people we are affected during the winter.

In the course of the quarter my young men, all members of Dawson & Church were transported further south for some training. On Sunday morning, shortly before their leaving us, we held a special service for them and their families gave them a blessing, God-speed on their journey.

We have launched the Young People's meetings with several young people participating. The primary aim is Bible study and its application to life. One of our aims we are more concerned with the problem of right interpretation from English to Eskimo tongue. Since we depend entirely on our young people in Sunday School and other church activities, we are endeavoring to give them of importance of proper preparation for instruction. These persons have no more serious than elementary training and are being to lose their opportunity as well as them. Therefore, we are looking forward

to further our knowledge of the
Bible as well as making more use
of English language and translating
perfectly from English to Hebrew.



*return to Dr. King with
thanks
1418*

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

Miss Bigford

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

April 15, 1942

ng

Narrative Report -- Mar. 15 to Apr. 14, 1942

X

Our nation being in war caused some of our young men to prepare for draft in the army. One Sunday evening we held a special service for eight young men wherein each was presented with a New Testament. All are members of this Church.

During the Holy Week special services from Tuesday through Friday evenings were held. Themes dealt with were based on the "Last Sayings of Jesus on the Cross." The purpose was "Closer Communion with God" through better understanding of "suffering and death of our Saviour for us." Naturally, this was climaxed by Easter Joy - "partaking of the Victorious Life"- with Holy Communion celebrated that Easter afternoon. There is a joyous atmosphere connected with Easter season in the Arctic. Right about this time we begin to sense the warmth of the returned sun after a long period of sunless days.

"St. Claudia" - a sacred play was presented ably by a group of young people. It was surprising how well they were able to commit themselves seriously in presenting such a play. The result will be long remembered by our older folk. The success of the presentation was due to the tireless effort and courage of the school teacher, who had the direct supervision of the play.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

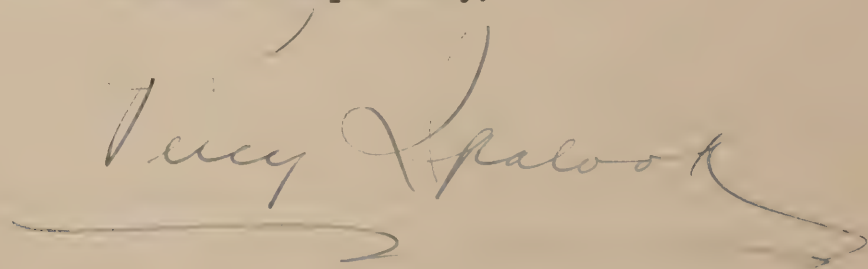
May 18, 1942

Narrative Report -- April 15 to May 14, 1942

Our church attendance for the month was greatly curtailed due to enforced activity and men being away from the village. Many of our young men and young couples have gone inland to hunt the choice caribou. There was a time when we depended entirely on reindeer meat but the last two or three years have been seen with hardly any of that domesticated animal. The wolves and perhaps improper management of the industry are some of the factors for its depletion.

From the middle of April several boat crews have launched out to the ice for flaw whaling. For the past three years not a one has been caught and we are anxious for a catch this year. Many of our people are hungry. Our Board of Deacons has had its hands full to keep our needy supplied from those who have and can spare. One whale caught would be enough to supply our larder for three or four months and this for the entire village.

Submitted respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Percy Ipalook", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

May 18, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

Your letter of April 25 received two days ago. We are glad to know that the Communion set and a number of Hymn Books for our Mission use are on the way, and be assured that we will have you know directly on receipt of the same. If these items are mailed us I am sure we will have received the first boat in from Nome with our summer mail. But if sent by freight with our annual supply we should have them the middle of August at the latest.

There are some material which I know the Central Distributing Office have mailed us but held in Seattle till navigation is open for the northern waters. One of these is a set of "A Year with the Bible" for this year.

I note in receiving some of the last material for Sunday School work we are being supplied with additional material. I am especially happy for the Picture Lesson Cards for the children who are always present each Sunday in our sessions. I know the Lessons will mean that much more to the children once they begin to take the Pictures home to remind them of lessons taught.

We are well and happy in the work and pray that no disturbance will touch our shores to disrupt the full program we have launched in the Mission station.

Yours very faithfully,



Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

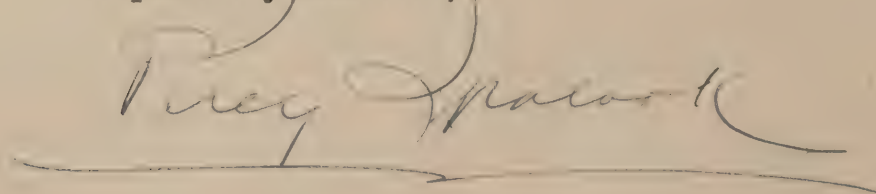
PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

June 16, 1942

Narrative Report for May 15 - June 14, 1942 :

It is strikingly significant ~~xx~~ to compare and illustrate the Scripture passages with accounts given how the early Eskimo responded to the Gospel introduction. Within the past month one Sunday School Lesson has in it a sentence, "But Elymas the sorceror... withstood them..." (Acts 13:8). This reminded some of the older Sunday School pupils how medicine men of the old life attempted to withstand the Word of God. There were men who became self-appointed "preachers" of cult doctrines, taking in as an authority much of the true Gospel but adding to it more of the old customs and beliefs of their ancestors. The missionary who was quick to learn and see the characteristic traits of his charges, instead of nagging his contemporaries, ignored all the oppositions. Silently but courageously ~~hw~~ went about his mission. The result was that even the hardened cult leader surrendered to the working power of the Holy Spirit.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Percy Ipalook", is written over a horizontal line.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

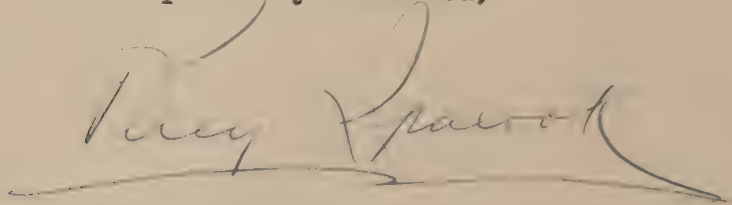
July 16, 1942

Narrative Report -- June 15 to July 14, 1942

The month began with a Congregational Meeting resulting with the election of a ruling elder and a Deacon.

In the mid section of this period we took our time off, taking the family away from the village for two weeks as vacation. However, the Church services were carried on by the elders who remained in the village. At this time of the year a good part of our congregation goes out camping for a seal hunt for the purpose of storing the meat and oil away for the long winter. This fact accounts for the drop in attendance both in the Sunday School and Worship services.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Percy Ipalook", written over a horizontal line.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

July 27, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King, Sec'y
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

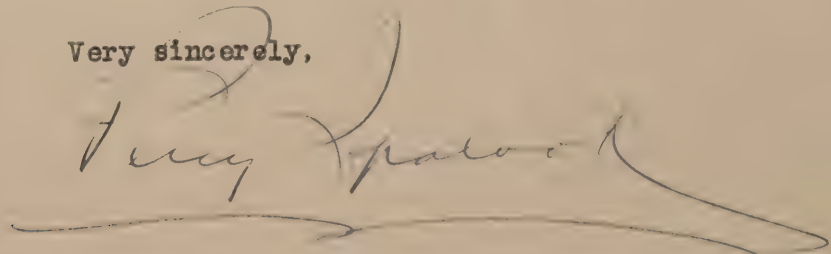
Dear Dr. King:

I have your circular letter dated May 14, 1942, which has a reference to the Budget of Board of National Missions for the year. As suggested in your letter, I brought the facts before our people ~~last~~ yesterday and the response to do our share is extremely satisfactory. As pointed out for our Wainwright Church to raise the amount of \$30, I feel confident that the said amount will be collected and forwarded on or before the end of the Church year.

I am extremely happy to present the hearty response of our people to the proposal, and more so when I know that very few of them are under regular salary to an appreciable amount. However, the spirit is there and I know we will ^{raise} the allotted amount for you although we have no immediate knowledge where the material source will be.

Some have asked whether it would be possible to donate something like a curio (native) which perhaps may be sold either here or ~~at~~ ~~near~~ near the New York office and the returns given for the benefit of the Budget. I told the folk it would be hard to say anything definite at the present time since the postage would have to be under consideration if sent out by mail, and that I would inquire about this matter from you. Please state whether this idea could be worked out so the folk who have no immediate currency to donate may be working on something which they feel can be sold for cash.

Very sincerely,



Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

August 14, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

attached

Your letter of June 3rd is on hand and I am glad to know that the books I wish for you to secure for me are on the way at this time. To date I have not received the same but take it that they will be here with our regular annual supply which should be here most any time. Along with that we ought to have received the set of Hymn Books and a Communion Set of which I will write you when received.

You state in your letter of sending an additional book to my order, PRAYER by Buttrick. Then again by mail received this week I have received a copy of a devotional book of which you are the donor - and for these two volumes, please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation. Glancing over the latter I note that ~~xxx~~ you are one of the contributing writers and so is Dr. Ward of Oak Park First Church. Then there are a few others I have met while out and some of which I know about so you can see that I am perfectly thrilled to own that copy for daily meditation.

On the 11th of this month I have just gotten back from Barrow with my family where we had been for a period of ten days for a general check up physically, and to have the oldest boy taken care of for tonsillotomy and adenotomy. Now the whole family is fairly in fine shape for the winter months speaking physically. While in Barrow I had the pleasure of helping out both Rev. Klerekoper and Roy with three funerals and two Sunday services with one Prayer Meeting in between for a good measure. It was great to have had a good visit with Rev Klerekoper and to fellowship with him, speaking about our problems as well as blessings we have experienced in our own stations. And this after having not seen him for nearly a year.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

August 17, 1942

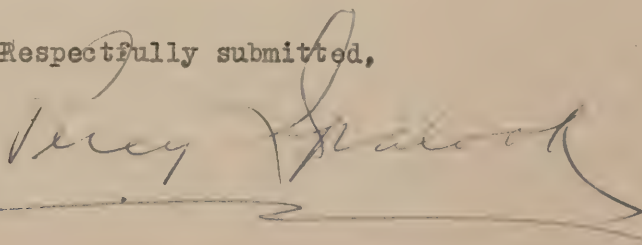
Narrative Report -- July 15 to Aug. 14, 1942

Last month we reported of an election of an elder and a deacon. In the beginning of this month we held an ordination service for the two men and gave thanksgiving to the Almighty God for His care and mercy to the visible Church He has provided us. We feel that the two men elected and ordained ~~to~~ each to his respected office will be blessed in their duties. We could not look for any others who stand out higher than they fitted to their respective tasks.

It became necessary for us to take the family up to Barrow for medical observation. The 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month were spent at Barrow and at both times we helped out in the preaching services. By coincidence, we officiated at a funeral service in Barrow of a man, member of Wainwright Church, but had been a resident of Barrow just the few past months.

In the course of the visit we fully enjoyed the fellowship of our fellow-workers--the Klerekopers-missionaries at Barrow Mission. We had not seen them nearly a year. It is after such visits with our fellow-workers that we feel encouraged and "buckled-up" for the common task of serving the Master.

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Percy Ipalook', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

September 1, 1942

Rev. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright
Alaska.

Dear Brother Percy:

It was a source of inspiration to read your letter of July 27th, and to know the fine response that your congregation has made to our request that they raise \$30.00 for the Board of National Missions. Will you please express not only my own personal appreciation, but also the appreciation of our Board for this expression of loyalty.

I think it would be quite feasible for some of your members to donate curios that could be sent here to the New York office, and returns credited to this Benevolence giving. Of course, the postage would be an item. But over and above the mailing cost there should be quite a little for the cause.

Personally, I would like very much to have a good size carving of the monument that was erected in memory of Will Rogers. If one of your carvers would make me a miniature copy of this monument out of ivory, I would be willing to give my personal check for it.

May the Lord continue to use you through the days ahead.

Cordially yours,

EBK:JBC

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER


September 17, 1942

Narrative Report for August 15 to September 14, 1942

The mid-summer season brings us the expectancy of the yearly supply boat from the states. This year there was a bit of anxiety in this respect due to the enemy action on the very route of boats coming our way. Following the time our one boat should be leaving the port of Seattle, prayers were urged to be expressed by our people in behalf of this supply boat. One early morning we were aroused to our pleasant surprise that a boat was approaching the anchorage, and there she was--the one boat from Seattle and all the supplies for us for the year. Some one has enthusiastically expressed that "Prayer changes things" but to us in the Arctic we are tempted to say this year that "Prayer sustains and supplies." It is needless to say on the following Lord's Day several were on their feet expressing thanksgiving for answers to the many prayers prior to the ship's arrival.

Although we are only a hundred miles away from Barrow we do not see our fellow-workers of that station often. Mrs. Klerekoper paid us a visit within recent weeks and this after not having been here in two or three years. However, three weeks before her visit we were obliged to make a trip to Barrow and the Klerekopers gave us a hearty welcome to the old home church. It does us much good to come together and fellowship in this isolated region.

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Percy Ipalook', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

September 18, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

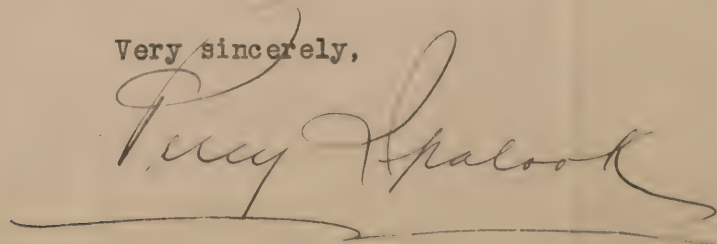
Dear Dr. King:

This will be hardly more than to inform you we have received our year's supply within recent months, or rather weeks. Consequently, we have received the Communion Set and the Hymn Books in good order, as well as some of the books I had ordered through you. I take it that Rev. Howell has mailed some of the books and shipped part of that order with our supply that came in by boat.

You can be sure that we are happy to have these needed material in our Church work. The Set is simply beautiful, to say the least. Dr. Thorne can readily recall, and perhaps Mrs. Hayes, the time of their visit here in 1939 when we were obliged to use some of our household goods to serve with in our 4 midnight Communion Service. But this only reminds us an account given by Strong that dried fish was used in Greenland as an element for lack of a better material.

Esther (Mrs.) wishes for me to express appreciation for the fine kitchen range sent us this year. Since its installment we have fared some of the palatable dishes which she had loathed to prepare with the inconvenient old range. However, the old is still usable only for the firebox and grates which are hard to find up here. We have put away the same knowing we can put it in use sometime in the future. All in all, accept our thanks for all these things sent us to simplify our housekeeping. The lamps sent us give excellent service. All of the five tons of coal is here. We are now securing the local coal and within another month or so I will send in a voucher for the payment of the same.

Very sincerely,



September 22, 1942

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I understand that the boat has arrived in Wainwright and by this time, I am sure, you have checked over your orders and will know how you stand. I sincerely hope that everything has reached you in good order and that you are not too short in your requests.

I noted that you had been in Point Barrow and that you had had some medical work done. It was fine that you were in a position to go to Barrow. I know that you enjoyed and appreciated the fellowship with the Klerekopers.

Cordially yours,

EBK:MR
Airmail

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

October 30, 1942

Chapman
Narrative Report for Sept. 15 to Oct. 14, 1942

World-Wide Communion Sunday surmounts other activities of the month. Year by year we sense more of our binding with the larger corporate Church, not only in the Nation, but throughout the world as well. On this particular observance of Communion Sunday we placed in use for the first time a full Communion Set sent us by the Board the past summer. Heretofore, we had been obliged to improvise trays and plates out of our household goods.

During one of the prayer meetings an unusual incident occurred in the period of voluntary prayers. Three persons stood up at the same moment to offer their prayers but two began while the third remained standing, waiting for the others to close. It is not uncommon to have two persons offer their prayers at the same time in our prayer services. All prayers in our meetings are voluntary.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

October 19, 1942

Rev. Percy Ipalook
Presbyterian Mission
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I have your good letter of September 8th and rejoice with you in the fact that you have received the supplies of the recent shipment. I am glad that the communion set and hymn books reached you in good order and I am quite sure you will be able to make great use of these two items. I only wish it was possible for me to be with you in your first Communion service.

It also made me happy to know that Mrs. Ipalook was so appreciative of the fine new range that was received. I suppose the next time I see you you will have put on some extra weight!

May the Lord continue richly to bless you and use you through these days.

Sincerely yours,

EBK/as

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

November 16, 1942

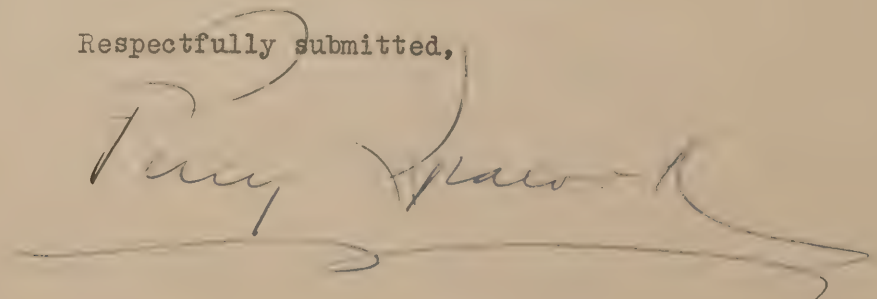
Narrative Report for Oct. 15 to Nov. 14, 1942

In the beginning of the month we took two weeks off our regular work as vacation and took this advantage for what proved to be an unsuccessful caribou hunt. Hitching up a dog-team we started for the inland and travelled for five days before starting back. The trip proved as such has been proven before: a catch of any game is where you find it, even in the wild region of the Arctic. A year ago the same territory we covered was literally "flooded" with thousands of caribou. However, we did bring home some greyling and salmon trout and along with that ten pounds more in our personal weight.

During our absence all services were led by Alva Nashoalook-- a reliable person in this type of work--and one of our ruling elders. Mr. Nashoalook was mentioned by Florence Hayes in her "Arctic Gateway" as having "a remarkably resonant baritone voice."
(p.126)

Cold weather is setting on us again. For economical advantage on light and fuel we advanced our Sunday evening services to late afternoon. This we find to be more satisfactory to mothers who otherwise would have to remain at home from the evening services on account of their small children.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Percy Ipalook', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nov. 17, 1942

AIR MAIL

Rev. Percy Ipslock
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I suppose you have already heard from Fred Kierkegaard or from Rolland Armstrong relative to the plans to supply St. Lawrence Island. As I understood it the plan calls for you to be transferred from Wainwright to St. Lawrence Island and for Ray to supply Wainwright.

I have written to Rolland Armstrong stating that I am wholly sympathetic toward the plan and that he had my permission to ask you to move. Of course, there is the food and fuel difficulty that you will have to face on St. Lawrence Island. No supplies were ordered or sent this year. That will be no small matter to take into consideration.

However, there is a great opportunity for service on the Island, and I do hate to see it without any type of leadership. If, therefore, you can see your way to do it, I hope you will make the move and give the people on the Island a leadership that they need.

Cordially yours,

EDW:mk

CC: Rev. Rolland Armstrong

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

December 7, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King, Sec'y
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

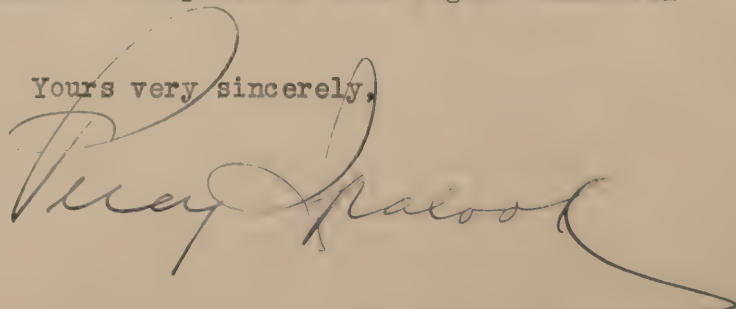
Dear Dr. King:

I am enclosing a filled out information which you desire concerning our Mission property at Wainwright. About item V. I trust what I have given under this suffice the desired information. Of course, this is not a requisition but an approximated list on which we hope to base our year's requisition which we will mail on to you in a month or so.

I would like to offer a suggestion concerning our lights. Heretofore, we have been supplied with gasoline and kerosene the purchase price of which amounts to \$26.20. The freight for the same comes to \$20.63, making a total of \$46.83 expended each year. Besides that there is in the neighborhood of \$6 for generators and mantles and an occasional request for a new lamp. What I have in mind is the possibility of securing a Wind-driven Electric Plant, large enough to care for our Church building and the Manse at the same time. A local native firm had secured one the past summer and to date it seems to give excellent service for their purpose, and generates even at -22° F. The type this firm has is Powermaster Wind Electric Plant, 1,000 Watt, 32 Volt, and is the product of Sears, Roebuck and Company. This plant with the necessary accessories such as wires, sockets, bulbs, fuses, etc., may be secured at the price between \$215 and \$235. It will necessarily have to be supplied with 16 jars of batteries, the price of which is included in the price mentioned above. You will readily see with me that with five years' purchase price on gasoline and kerosene, such a plant could be bought. I would appreciate your reaction on this suggestion.

Your fine letter of September 1, last, has been received. I have passed on the words to our congregation mentioned in your letter. Our local men are not noted for fine ivory carving as the men further south like in Wales or Diomed Islands. But we will see what we can do in securing a miniature monument - a replica of Will Rogers' memorial marker.

Yours very sincerely,



ENC.

RETURN PROMPTLY

(Please give information requested and return this sheet to Everett
B. King, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York)

I. Total Salary you receive	\$ 1,200.00	
Amount paid by Board	\$ 1,200.00	
Amount paid by Church	\$ -----	
II. Total membership of Church		130
New members received last year		15
III. Total number attending Sunday School		165
IV. Total present value of Property	\$ 805.91 4,692.08	
Manse value	\$ 1,882.17	
Church value	\$ 2,004.00	
V. Give Church Budget for 1942-1943 (List items and state amount for each)		
5 Tons Utah Coal	\$80.25	
7 Cs. Gasoline & 3 Cs. Kerosene	26.20	
1 Dz. Generators & 3 Dz. Mantles	6.35	
1 Set Firebox Assembly & Grates for Range	4.50	(Appro.)
1 Bed Complete with Spring & Mattress	21.00	
1 Chemical Indoor Toilet	6.45	
Linoleum Enough to cover Floor 12' x 26'	45.24	
4 Large & 3 Small Storm Windows	18.00	
2 Rolls Roofing (Roof Repair for Church)	4.00	
	<u>\$211.99</u>	
Request for Expenditure Allowance		
Freight on 5 Tons Coal Plus Ins. Whf. H&lg.	214.30	
" " Gasoline & Kerosene	20.63	
" " Personal Grocery Appro. 5 Tons	150.00	
Allowance to Purchase Local Coal With	140.00	
Lighterage & Mission Supply Longshore	65.00	
	<u>\$589.93</u>	
		\$801.92
(Signed) <u>Perry Ipalook</u>		
	Perry Ipalook Wainwright Presbyterian Mission Wainwright, Alaska	

December 7, 1942

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

December 8, 1942

Re: Your Circular - Sept. 25, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

no Bombing I am enclosing two copies each of Church building with its equipment and the Manse with its equipment and valuations given to the nearest estimation on items which have never been given to us in value. One of these is the actual value of material for the church building and the purchase price of heater for the building. If at all possible I would appreciate in knowing the actual cost of these things if the Board has these references on file, to base future appraisals on the property of this Mission. Other items are given from invoices received on shipment. *←*

I am listing property as "Board-owned" which to my knowledge has been paid for by the Board, such as the buildings, the bell, stoves, etc. The others as "Church-owned" which have been donated to us either from Barrow Mission or Missionary Societies (States) and from individuals. One of the latter is the organ, which was sent us from Seattle through the efforts of one sportsman, Mr. Joseph Lilly, of Des Moines, Iowa, who had made a visit to our country one spring. On such donations the valuations are mine according to the nearest estimates I can give.

*\$2,000
2,000
1,000
1,000* In working on such a property appraisal such as the above and enclosed, one sense more of the value of things under one's care. Hence, I am more or less compelled to ask for an information which has never been given me heretofore. The total value of our Wainwright Mission and its equipment amounts to well over \$4,000. Is all of this property covered against loss, say from fire or any other cause? I take it that the Board is fully aware of such an incident as possible due to the gasline-fed illumination and the coal fueled stoves in both buildings. This sense of possibility gives us extra precautionary measures in fire preventions.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

ENC.

Wnrt Prprt Appr.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

December 22, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. King:

I have received your letter of Oct. 23, last, and with that were enclosed the bills for ~~the~~ supplies shipped us the past summer. In checking over the lists I see a few items that may be adjusted. Here is what I find: In Montgomery Ward order list beginning with sewing machine the total amount given is \$135.70. In checking that particular list I have always concluded to \$135.61. In additional Schwabacher Bros. page or list beginning with Cracker Jack the amount given is \$13.81 which to my figures should be \$13.18. In your letter accompanying these bills you have listed a pair of boots and a saw among those not shipped but the prices of these items is included in the Ward list charged against me. In that Ward list I see I have been charged for 2 Crtn .22 Cal. Spec. W.C.F. Cartridges (Exactly what I have ordered) but in the shipment I have received one (1) carton of .22 Long Rifle cartridges which to their catalog is priced \$2.90. I have been charged \$8.20 for what I was supposed to have received. In the final analysis and from my own computation here are my figures! with discounts where indicated:

Schwabacher Bros. & Co. (General Grocery)	4.48	\$652.53
Montgomery Ward (Prices off for Boots & Saw -	3.19	
\$2.90 inserted in place of		
\$8.20 for 22 cart.)		109.93
Scwaba. Bros. (Candy etc.)		13.18
Books (From 2 Book Concerns)		18.92

Total \$794.56

I trust that adjustment can be made with Montgomery Ward & Co. for items mentioned above and should that Company be credited for items not received, I feel that the Board and myself should be reimbursed accordingly.

Just a word about the books. All books billed against me are here but for three. These are:

1	only	Pastoral Psychology -- Bonnel	\$4.27
1	"	New Chapters in N.T. Study --	
		Goodspeed	1.80
1	"	The Minister: His World & His Work	.90

Since I received part of that book order by mail just a few days ago I still have hopes that the missing ones will be along by mail soon. Large portion of that book order arrived last summer along with our general order.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

December 30, 1942

AIR MAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipelook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

Thank you for the information that we have received relative to the mission property at Wainwright. You have given the desired information.

At the present time our Board carries \$4000.00 insurance on the Manse and Church at Wainwright, \$2000.00 covering the church and \$2000.00 covering the manse. I am sorry to say that there is no other form of insurance at the present time on our property.

I cannot tell you the actual cost of the materials for the church or for the heater, but am trying to locate the figures. I am very much interested in what you had to say about the Powermaster Wind Electric Plant. In your orders for next year, you may include such a plant, and if possible we will arrange to have it shipped. Of course, no one knows what the shipping conditions will be in the summer of the coming year.

I am going to look forward to some replica of Will Rogers' memorial marker. I am quite sure that I can make splendid use of it.

I trust that you and your family will have a Happy New Year.

Cordially yours,

EBK/mk

January 13, 1943

AIR MAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

No one knows at this point whether or not the shipment of supplies will be made this next summer. In order to be safe you should send me your requisition list as soon as possible, and no later than April 1.

We should have this information in our hands early in order that we can make the plans for the necessary shipment. Again this year I want you to follow the plan of giving me two separate lists, one list will be your personal items, and these will be charged against your salary. The other list will include the items for maintenance, and they will be charged against the Board.

It is so much easier for you to make this division, then it is for us here at headquarters. I hope that you will prepare the list and send it immediately.

Cordially yours,

EBK/mk

February 11, 1943

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Mr. Ipalook:

Dr. King is out of the office on a field trip but he has asked me to write you regarding the oil drums.

You are to return all oil drums this summer to Rev. W. J. Howell in Seattle. The drums will be acceptable if they are not rusty on the inside, no matter what shape the outside is in. We urge that you collect the drums and ship them back to the States since we net over four dollars on each one. The freight payments will be made at Seattle.

We shall greatly appreciate your making every effort to return all the drums during the summer.

Cordially yours,

Secretary to Dr. King

McE

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

February 15, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

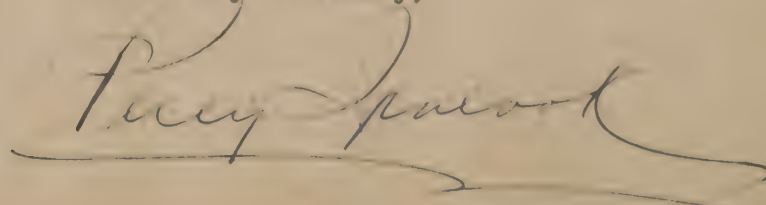
It has never occurred to me before of the seriousness of the possible induction for draft and I wish to have you know that while in Dubuque two years ago I was obliged to register for classification. Then I was classed as "Class Three". Last summer on receiving a blank to fill out I have sent in which is known as Questionnaire for Occupational Selective Service. To date I have not heard of anything concerning the same.

Within the past few days we are now hearing over the radio that men up to the age of 38 may be inducted irrespective of dependents. Since I will not have been 38 till April 1 of 1944 that brings me in to that category. Just at the present I am wondering what the Board's reaction would be in case I was called either for draft or national defense occupation. Perhaps you know more about the procedures and would appreciate an information or suggestions. My local Board is --

Dubuque County
Local Board No. 1
216 Old Federal Bldg.,
Dubuque, Iowa

For the past month our village has been inflicted with an unusual "flu" which seems to stay with its victim for several weeks. I was down with it for three weeks and now am almost over with it. Because of the "flu" we had discontinued the public services and this following the doctor's orders from Barrow. Now that most everybody is getting over it we are anticipating to get back to normal church program. One grateful thing we have in this affliction there has been no death resulted from it although there were a few which we feared would succumb to it. The family is fine except for colds but not serious.

Yours very sincerely,



February 23, 1943

Rev. Mr. Percy Ipalook
Wainwright, Alaska

Dear Percy:

We have checked over the matter of your supplies as stated in your letter of December 22nd. We are referring the matter of the cartridges to Mr. Howell in Seattle and shall let you know what we hear.

In regard to the boots and saw - credits for those items were received from Montgomery Ward but since the cost of some items had increased since the receipt of the original bill it seemed to work out that the actual credit was \$115 as indicated on your statement. However, in checking over the bills and credits again, it would appear that the freight had gone up. We are therefore, crediting you with the amount of \$8.17.

As to the Schwabacher Bros. bill we shall inclose another copy of this bill for your information. The total is \$13.81 as we had previously indicated. Perhaps in copying the bill we made some mistake. If so, I am sorry.

Undoubtedly you will be receiving the balance of the books within a short time. If not, let us hear from you and we shall look into the matter.

Cordially yours,

MoE

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

March 25, 1943

AIRMAIL

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

This is to submit the report on Church Benevolence Offerings from this church to date.

November	\$1.55	
Dec.-Jan.	3.45	
February (none)		No services (Flu)
March	2.38	
Total	\$7.38	

For offerings prior to November see my letter dated October 7, 1942. You will also note in that letter I mailed on to you the exact ~~of~~ amount of \$8.00. There seems to be a slight adjustment that is necessary in this regards. The Board's Receipt (No. E 23614) ~~and~~ dated Dec. 8, '42 gives this church credit for \$8.00. Another Board's Receipt received here and numbered E24689, dated Dec. 23, '42, gives us a credit of \$5.51. I was a bit baffled about this last item knowing ~~that~~ we had not sent any money outside of the \$8 we mailed in Oct. 7. However, it dawned upon me on receiving my January salary check an amount of \$5.51 had been deducted and noted as a Church Benevolence. I take this as a procedure on a part of some Board's secretary or treasurer basing it on my formal Monthly Report for August-September 1942 where I have noted the church's benevolence contribution to that amount. You will readily see I had mailed on that amount with my October 7 letter.

x No. 39314

memo
Tress (Here is my view of adjusting this matter. I have on hand \$7.38 plus 19¢, balance from last remittance, to the amount of \$7.57. The amount of \$5.51 has been deducted from my January salary leaving a balance of \$2.06. Will you please deduct \$2.06 from my next month's salary check, credit Wainwright Church with that, and that should place us in the right order as far as I can see.)

With the out-going April mail I am mailing on to you a package containing a few items of native curios included in our offerings. I trust these may realize some cash and that amount allotted to the Benevolence quota from this church. You will, of course, notify me on this so we will know how much we are short in our offerings. It has been trying to collect all of the amount before the fiscal year ends, but we hope to fill in the quota even if a bit late in remittance.

Yours respectfully,

Percy Ipalook

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

March 27, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

I am enclosing herewith my letter to Rev. Howell along with Cargo Receipt and Freight Bill to indicate there had been a shortage on Bacon in my general grocery that came last summer. This letter has been returned to me as "Unclaimed" as the return frank will show.

I had written to Mr. Howell concerning the matter with expectation that a claim would be made through him, the purchasing agent, from Alaska Steamship Company. Now I realize the mistake I made in not forwarding on to the Board the enclosures for proper adjustment. But you will see should Mr. Howell received my letter he could have mailed on to you the necessary papers if he were not able to do it for me. Hence, I am placing this matter on to your hands for adjustment as well as for claim on freight of the same item, if not late to put in the claim.

I have a letter from the Board dated February 11, 1943 in regards to oil drums. We do not have any on hand in this station since we receive all of our fuel in five-gallon tins. Of course, this refers to gasoline and kerosene and not to Utah coal. However, we will ship any empty drum we may have in the future and will leave instruction should we leave this place before the ships are in.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Enc.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

April 5, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

The amount enclosed which is two dollars (\$2.00) represents the collection yesterday as received for our Church Benevolent Quota. We are sorry we were not able to fill in full the Quota by end of fiscal year but still are striving to reach our goal. There is some curios mailed to you which we hope will help to allay our quota for the year.

We are in full swing for preparation to leave and hope to be on our way the middle of this week for Kotzebue and thence to St. Lawrence Island. There is no telling at this time how soon we will finally reach the Island as we are starting out from Wainwright for Kotzebue with the use of dog teams. From Kotzebue it will be necessary to depend on planes to the Island.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Enc.

P. S. Please accept my sincere appreciation on the extra grant of \$300 for the year. It (of it) came at the time when we will be needing it for Esther's dental work that is badly needed. Large portion of it will be used in transportation from and back to Kotzebue. P. I.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

April 6, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y. N

Dear Dr. King:

Your letter of February 23, last, is on hand.

I am enclosing herewith bills made out to me on orders from Montgomery Ward and Schwabacher Bros., as well as the bill received for information. I am sorry to have failed to notice that an item of 1 box of Juicy Fruit had been omitted, the price of which is 63¢, thus automatically adjusting your total of \$13.81 in lieu of my \$13.18. In the Ward list there may have been a misprint on some item to the amount of 8¢ but since this is a trifle we perhaps can let it pass. But I trust the Montgomery Ward Company will still adjust the item on ammunition where there seems to be \$5 in difference.

I have received the Board's Receipt numbered E 26772 which credits Wainwright Church the amount of \$4.23 in its Benevolent Quota. This I take to have been done in view of my monthly reports for Sept.-Oct. and Oct.-Nov. 1942. I have also received my salary check for February numbered 42598 with notation that \$4.23 has been deducted as "retained". From my letters of October 7 and March 25 you will see that the amount referred to is good as sent and yet deducted out of my salary. However, Esther and I have decided to contribute the amount of \$4.23 as a part in this Benevolent Quota for Wainwright Church and will appreciate if acknowledgment is made on the same. Here is my summary of amounts collected and either mailed or deducted out of my salary as indicated:

Offerings		Acknowledgements	
Aug. Sept. Oct. 1942	\$8.19	Receipt No. E 23614	\$8.00
Nov. - March, Incl.	7.38	" " E 24689	5.51 *
Percy-Esther Contr.	4.23	" " E 26772	4.23 **
		(See Letter Mar.25 (3))	2.06
April	<u>2.00</u>	Mailed April 5	<u>2.00</u>
	\$21.80		\$21.80

* Deduction from January salary
** " " February "

For adjustments on paragraph 1 above see your letters Oct. 23, '42 and Feb. 23, '43; my letters of Dec. 22, '42. On paragraph 2 see my letters of Oct. 7, '42, Mar. 25, April 5, 1943 and Board Receipts mentioned above.

I can see part of this mix up is my fault as I could not forward on to you immediately amounts when received. We do not have a Postal Money Order Postoffice and had to resort to sending the currency on bills when sufficient sums were collected and sent by registered mail. I trust this will serve to ~~xxx~~ clarify everything and set all in their right order.

Very sincerely,

Enc.

Percy Ipalook

May 7, 1943

AIR MAIL

Rev. Percy Ipalook
Gambell
St. Lawrence Island, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I have your letter of April 5 with the two, one dollar bills, enclosed. We have used them as benevolence money, and have credited Wainwright Church. It is not possible to give your Church credit on last year's benevolence quota. The year closed March 31, and the books were held open until about April 3. However, the money will be used on this new year's quota.

I am most anxious to know whether or not you have arrived on the Island, and if so, what condition you have found the churches in. The first opportunity that you have to send me information will be greatly appreciated.

Cordially yours,

BEK/ak

Copy
of Graham Wilson
Miss Hickey
Miss Bannan

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA
Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

July 16, 1943

Narrative Report --- June 15 to July 14, 1943

"Report....not later than Monday morning....transportation available...." It was Sunday afternoon when I received the foregoing communication. Fortunately, a way was clear for me to report at the appointed time, and last minute details from our contact man concerning ---well, concerning everything from expense bills to possible pastoral problems in the new field I was assigned to.

Tuesday afternoon brought me to Gambell. "We are glad you are here now; where is Armstrong?" They had heard Rev. Armstrong was to make a visit, but unfortunately, space in plane was limited to a few of us.

In the course of ten days since my arrival, I have visited a number of homes on pastoral and social calls. One of these visits was to Charles Slwooko's well-kept home. Casually speaking I said I knew him before I came, having read in our different publications of his usual fox pelt donations. "Oh yes; the first fox I catch -- it belongs to the Lord. I am very thankful He takes care of me and my family." Bargaining with the All-Provider? Far from it. He knew perfectly well that that one fox might be the only catch for the season. And yet that first pelt invariably is freely and gratefully given each year.

One afternoon I was called to visit old Apaata. This old man is both blind and deaf. Through some generous friend out in the States and by efforts of Miss Bannan, Apaata has now the use of ear-phone for conversation. "I am very happy you are here...I hope your wife and children come soon...You all will be like my children." After cheering words and prayer he shook our hand and bid us good-bye as would a man who has had a lifetime of Christian experience. But our Church Records shows Apaata gave himself and joined this Church just fifteen months ago.

Samuel, one of the five elders, dropped in the living quarters after a mid-week Prayer Meeting. "We are so very glad you come. All last winter we are like lamp burning low. I knew but I did not want to say it. Now it is like burning brighter." What a challenge these people bring out! I will have to familiarize myself with my interpreter's terms--"procrastination....heathens."

Our crowded Sunday Schools force us to have two separate sessions - the morning taken over for women and children and early afternoon for men. Young People's Society has its meeting in mid-afternoon. Early evening is devoted to worship service and much to our inconvenience an interpreter is necessarily engaged for the benefit of old folk. The local tongue is nearer to that of Siberian and far from ours in Alaskan mainland.

The untiring efforts of Miss Ann Bannan are evidenced both in spiritual and material results. The people "have a mind to work" together in our Church program. The mission equipment is all that an out-post missionary would ask ask for and more. Again, the challenge is still here. "They are already to harvest....One soweth, and another reapeth."

Percy Ipalook

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

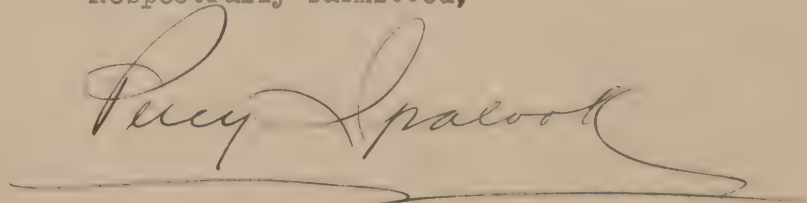
August 16, 1943

Narrative Report - July 15 to August 14, 1943

There is a peculiar malady, or had been the past year, which had a heavy toll of youngsters in both villages. As a consequence, a funeral for a five year old boy was conducted in the child's home - he being the third child lost by his young parents the last six months. Being new in the field I did not know where the cemetery was. The immediate relatives of the deceased in preparation to take the corpse wherever the place was, were a bit surprised of my intention to come along with them. Yes, they had come for me to give a Christian burial. I would have to complete that at the last resting place. They said it was far and that I needed a pair of rubber boots. There is a hillside of a low mountain about two miles from the village. Throughout the gravelly low place we trudged along till we came to what I gathered as the village cemetery. This was marked by a coffin here and there among rocks, and these were usually set against an unusually heavy rock "to keep them from blown away." The Christian committal service ended, the grandfather asked if it "would be wrong for him also to offer prayer." It was not wrong and he prayed.

The highlight of month's activities was our visit to the other field-Savoonga. Several of our Gambell people were going over for reindeer corraling. This would give them a chance to secure for their needs some skins and fresh reindeer meat. The first Sunday in Savoonga was devoted to a Communion Service wherein 180 attended. Many were forced to sit along the stairway as the main room was filled to capacity. The American teacher and his wife, Presbyterians from Indiana, participated in this service. At Savoonga we are obliged to use an attic of a Government school building for religious services. How badly we need to have a church building over there! The following Monday afternoon one elder and I visited and served Communion to sick and aged in several homes. These visits were also enlightening. Not only is a decent meeting-place needed, but an extensive program on health education needs to be stressed to the people. The newly appointed Government nurse is doing ~~her~~ all she can, but greatly alarmed in finding conditions as such if race on this Island is to be preserved.

Respectfully submitted,



Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

~~WAINWRIGHT~~, ALASKA

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

August 21, 1943

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

I trust from Rev Armstrong and through my monthly reports you have the knowledge that I arrived here the 6th of July. The journey was a trying trip and helpful in many ways - uncertainties and unexpected happy outcomes all the way from the start. All in all, I am quite settled personally, but entire family "stranded" with wife's folks in Kotzebue. Do not know as yet when she may come here but evidences are she may come much earlier than we had planned.

Since my arrival I have made a trip to Savoonga and stayed there two weeks. This has been reported in my last month's report.

Within recent days there has been one thing dominant in my mind and which I would like to convey to you. I came here singly with the idea of "looking things over" first before attempting to transport the family. Of course, after some months we had the idea that the family would be along. Since I have come to both villages of the Island I have been warned confidentially that I had better "think twice" before I bring my children here. This was from one directly connected with health authorities. Both villages are extremely contaminated with tuberculosis that I was warned, if my children, considered as healthy, mix with these children, there is the danger of their contacting the disease. Furthermore, I have been a bit fearful for myself. Knowing well my own family trait I have that consciousness of being not far from tuberculosis--and that only for favorable up-keep and constant care have I been well thus far. Being an Eskimo I am considered as an equal to these people locally. Therefore, every now and then I am invited for a lunch or dinner with some family. Although I am very appreciative of the fact, and have expressed so each time, I have seen that living conditions could stand a whole lot of improvement. More so as to the care of dishes and cleaner way of handling food. "If you don't stop that, I cannot see how you can keep out of it (tuberculosis).^x That would be a fine picture-you lying down with it and your fine family around you and Esther" is the warning that has been put to me point-blank, and I have been trying to comply accordingly. It is not the easiest thing to refuse a well-meaning invitation, especially when they believe they are doing a decent favor. It would be a lot easier to keep out of it all if the wife were here to prepare our own meals.

Now what to do. I do not know a great deal only for the fact I have been asked to supply for an indefinite period. In thinking this over I have only one suggestion, and here it is for its worth. We all realize this is an important station - demanding every consideration and interest of our church people. I would suggest that a couple be found, preferably without small children, and perhaps a couple which has had experience in foreign field among the Oriental type of people. One thing that strikes

Handwritten: *Dr. King*
Handwritten: *Reminded*
me at the beginning is the contrast of these people with our own in the mainland of Alaska. These are more akin to Siberians - and Siberians more to the Asiatic peoples. They are excitable and seemingly wanting to hold to old tribal customs. Language is so different from ours that I fear I will never learn to speak it. From my personal experience, a message through an interpreter seems to lose its force and speaking through an interpreter is always an unsatisfactory method. Coming back to my suggestion. The man, of course, may be necessarily ordained, and wife or both equipped to do an extensive health program. The couple could be fairly young but hardy enough to stand much of the "sunless" days due to constant fog and clouds in summer.

For my situation. I am not in the habit of asking for a definite field. But if given a chance for preference, I would ask for a try of Wales mission. I say this, because it will be more satisfactory for me to be with the family there, and from indirect information, I believe it will do our Wales station a lot of good in a change of personnel. I do not know what the exact situation is, but I hear some of our parishioners there are discouraged and station not kept up in fair shape as could be. I know it is ^{not} always the wisest thing to have one person stay at same place for a good number of years, unless periodic regular furloughs are taken. This is more true in small communities up here where diversions are few. I do not have anything personal against Miss Stauffer. But I do sympathize with her and her work there at Wales, and more so with the people whom I got to know quite well in 1934-35.

Here are the facts as I find them and suggestions as I gleaned out for what I think would be beneficial. In addition, a white couple at this time would do more good than I can since they would be looked up to as superior in race. That may help to divert the growing tendency to change to other faith in the community.

I trust you will consider and pray over this with us and act according to the best possible ~~best~~ solution. I believe this is a matter that cannot be taken lightly, and deliberate consideration demanded for the welfare of all concerned.

Yours respectfully,

Handwritten signature: Percy Palook

P.S. For further light on tubercular conditions of Alaskans, see initial issue of "Alaska's Health" for June 1943--published by Alaska Health Department (Department of Health), Juneau, Alaska.

P.I.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA
Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

September 11, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King :

There is quite a bit of property in this Mission but I have no way of knowing of its proper valuation since I cannot find any list in the house. Then again I have been told that some have been donated by Miss Bannan. If there is a list in your files I would appreciate one since we are required to check up on Mission property. Perhaps Miss Bannan has one with her.

By mail that left here recently I have sent you the bill for various items as repairs, lightage, and light bill. Since I had submitted that bill I have been informed that the light bill for the current year has been raised to \$6 per month. This will total to \$72 a year, but not payable till end of April.

1944 will mark the fiftieth year of Presbyterian work in St. Lawrence Island. What do you think of its special presentation to home churches or Missionary Circles, or a special "corner" in the next General Assembly for the anniversary? If it will help, I find a goodly number of old books which formerly belonged to Mr. Gambell and Sheldon Jackson, donated to this mission. One of these has Dr. Jackson's handwriting and autograph in it. I can mail these on to you if you think they may be used to good advantage for our purpose.

Very sincerely,



THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
Gambell, St. Lawrence Island
A L A S K A

September 15, 1943

Narrative Report -- August 15 to September 14, 1943

The highlight of the month's activities was the observance of Communion Service. The last such service was had a year and a half ago and it was with deep anticipation our congregation looked forward to this service. Including a few visitors from neighboring village our communicants numbered to 132. There was only one child who was baptized and one person admitted to membership on certificate. The following day with two elders assisting eight homes were visited in order that the shut-in and aged might be served the Lord's Table. Some of the visited were ill, but most of them were the aged. Among the latter were two old men, who formerly had ~~the~~ been classed as "medicine men". Being in that category involved a good deal of superstition and a sense of superiority over their fellow-men. How the Spirit of Christianity can alter such attitude may be readily observed as these people solemnly and humbly gave themselves to the mastery of Christ over their lives. All in all, as we went ^{from house} to house, and as we went through the sacred ritual, we realized how we need to learn more and more of the true significance of these things. There is a marked trend of progression and this to the credit of faithful workers of previous years, but we are still in the initial period.

Jessie is a very sick young woman. She is a member of the church but her parents are not and cling to the superstitious life as yet. But as we make the pastoral calls to pray with Jessie the parents are most courteous and grateful for our visits to their daughter. Incessant prayers are offered in our Prayer Circles that this illness may be a means of bringing the parents to Christ and that whatever plan the Lord may have for their young daughter, she may have the satisfaction of knowing that her parents have given themselves as she had.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Palood

September 21, 1943

AIR MAIL

Rev. Mr. Percy IPalook
Gambell,
St. Lawrence Island, Alaska

Dear Percy:

I have your letter dated August 21, in which you set forth the problems that you are facing on the Island relative to the health situation. Of course, you know far better than anyone else what you ought to do and what you can do. I shall not try to tell you what to do in this very important matter, but shall leave it up to you, and after you have thought through the whole matter and prayed over it earnestly, I am sure that you will reach the wisest decision.

Of course, for the time being I am certain that it would not be wise for you to think in terms of transporting your wife and children to the Island. Your work on the Island is a temporary work at the best and until something more definite has been established you ought not to involve the Board in the moving expenses, or expose your family by bringing them over.

I am glad that the supplies have reached you. I am also encouraged about the reports you are sending in about the work there. May the Lord continue to use you and to bless you.

Cordially yours,

BEK/nk

October 1, 1943

AIR MAIL

Rev. Percy Ipalook
Gambell, St. Lawrence Island
Alaska

Dear Percy:

Back in July you sent Rev. Bingle a bill from A. Polet in Nome covering items that you bought in June. This bill has been forwarded to this office. No bill has yet been received from A. Polet of Nome. If and when we receive that bill, we shall charge it against your salary as a personal item as we have done with such orders in the past.

You write something about having difficulty in receiving materials. I suggest that you order directly from the Board of Christian Education, Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Penna. In this way you probably will be able to get better service. I think this is the policy that is now being pursued by Savoonga.

I pray the Lord will continue to guide you and to direct all of your activities.

Cordially yours,

BEK/mk

JAN 17 1944

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA
Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

October 16, 1943

Narrative Report -- Sept 15 to Oct 14, 1943

Jessie, the young woman we spoke of last month, passed away the early part of this month. She died a victorious Christian with a smile on her face in spite of unchristian surroundings in her home. Naturally, the parents and other immediate relatives took it hard to lose a loved one. Funeral for Jessie was held in the home; in the course of service immortal life of Christians was stressed and future life of those who "died in the Lord."

World-Wide Communion Sunday was observed with celebration of the Holy Supper, two adult baptisms, and nine admissions to membership. This is the first participation of this church in such an observance--and among the worshippers there seemed a sense of world-fellowship and realization for the first time among many that we are only a part of the greater communion. We may have been the last Church to close the event since we are next to International Date Line. The offering for the day exceeded our allotted Church Benevolent Quota for the year.

One day James, an elder, and I called on an old woman, reputed to be one of few who holds very strongly to old tribal customs. In her conversations she was truthful in stating she would find it very difficult to change from "old to new." Ever since she was a small child her parents had made a deep impression on her by their strict observance of tribal customs, and by their teaching to belief of ceremonial practises. What her parents had taught she could not cast off overnight! Upon leaving we assured her we would not cease praying for her soul, and informing her what we ourselves cannot do the Holy Spirit can if we let him. Jessie, the young woman mentioned above, was her granddaughter. Shortly after we could not have a more appropriate Sunday School Lesson than "Christian Nurture in the Family." This calloused old lady was referred to as an example of the effects of an early training among children. We cannot begin any too soon to impress our children what our faith means not only by word, but by "strict observance" of Christian religion.

Submitted respectfully,


Percy Ipalook

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

JAN 17 1944

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

November 16, 1943

Narrative Report -- Oct 15 to Nov 14, 1943

Our co-worker, Miss Anna Martin, destined for Savoonga, arrived here the early part of October. She has now been with us a little over a month. Her experience of an extended wait for transportation to a point not more than fifty miles away will reveal clearly the uncertainty of possibilities within the Northland. It is now late for boat travel (native boats) due to sudden high seas and almost constant high surf along the coast. It is too early for dog-team travelling as there is very little snow on the ground. Consequently, the good lady is down sitting tight anxiously hoping for a good snow-storm, and forever requesting we give her something to do. With her help the missionary's wife has launched a Women's Club, wherein once each week the mothers come to relax on recreation from home ties or bring over home sewing for a bit of friendly chat with their neighbors while sewing. It is hoped along with this diversion other helpful activity may be included such as study of better care of children in the home and certain type of sewing still foreign to these women.

Our Government teachers have a set of colored slides which portray the "Life of Christ." One Sunday afternoon we had the privilege of borrowing these for our congregation. With each scene a short description was given and at intervals an application to life stressed with outstanding portrayals. The Crucifixion scene had a more impressed reception from the group while the "Good Shepherd" had a peaceful contribution. These people love to see pictorial presentations but we have too little material of such.

Four more new improvised pews have been added to our seating in the auditorium. Several men donated their labor and material has been bought with money contributed for that purpose. Co-operation among these people is excellent and credit goes to initiative of our Board of Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook

JAN 3 1944

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

December 10, 1943

Secretary -- Alaska Missions
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Sir:

After letter
Within recent weeks I have received two letters, dated September 29 and October 1, respectively, from the Board, per Dr. Everett B. King. As to the first of the two I am not in the clear whether this letter is directed to me or to our missionary at Wiles in view of the third paragraph of that letter. In checking this up it will enlighten us not a little as to the amount of salary for the current year as well as the maintenance fund directed. *amount in letter correct*

As to the letter of October 1 I wish to have the Board understand that I did not send a bill to Rev. Bingle concerning groceries obtained from A. Polet. What I did send was a list of groceries this Mission received even before my arrival, and which Rev. Bingle had ordered through a letter from A. Polet in March and as an emergency supply. Since we are using this grocery for our sustenance I have no objection of its being charged against my salary. There were some items in the list which I could have obtained here on my arrival and at the saving of 20 to 30%.

My family arrived the 7th of October. Miss Anna Martin is now at Savoonga and presume in the full force of her activity in that neighboring village. We are well, but have received a word of our father-in-law's death yesterday, in Kotzebue. We crave for your prayers in holding us up to the Altar of Mercy.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

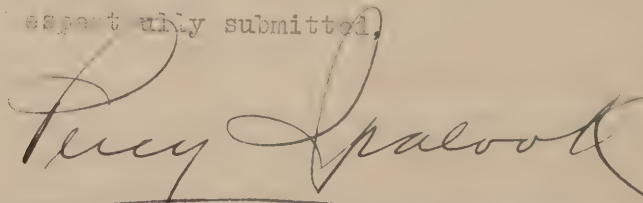
December 16, 1943

Narrative Report -- Nov 15 to Dec 14, 1943

Typically speaking, this month is the usual period for extensive preparation for both Thanksgiving and Christmas "Specials". For Thanksgiving service our young people did fairly well for all parts singing without any accompaniment. This experience is fairly new for most of them as they are accustomed to singing only in "air" of hymns. "Giving of Thanks" expressed by several in the service varied from material blessings to spiritual. There was more substance on the food line. (There was a semi-famine last year about this time.) Our supply boat has come and gone without any mishap all the way from "outside". Many have recovered from severe illnesses. The resident missionary had arrived the past summer after the place had been vacant for over a year. The Day was topped off with a Feast at the Government School building and "movies" of local scenes.

This month we have launched Bible classes in Government School once a week. This is giving us an opportunity to instill to the minds of the young the general outline of Bible drills, memory work, and stories of Great Men and Women of the Bible. We are happy to take this opportunity as it helps to show that Church and Schools can work together for betterment of our peoples.

Respectfully submitted,



Percy Ipalook

January 6, 1944

AIR MAIL

The Rev. Peter Ipalook
Gambell, St. Lawrence Island
Alaska

My dear Mr. Ipalook:

In response to your letter of December 10, we want to assure you that the figures which were quoted you for salary during the current year in Mr. King's letter of September 29 were correct. For your information we repeat these figures:

Salary \$1600.00 for the year beginning October 1, 1943

In addition to this salary a grant of \$1250.00 was made for the maintenance fund for your mission station on St. Lawrence Island.

The reference in the letter about you being at Wales was a mistake, and this should have read, "at Gambell".

The matter concerning your bills from A. Polet still has not been entirely cleared. We hope as time goes along that the situation may be straightened out. A simple statement from you concerning the exact orders and bills would be helpful.

We are delighted to know that your family is with you on Gambell, and that you are united in the service which you are rendering in this community. We have not had any report from you concerning the expense of getting your family there. Our Treasury Department is holding an item for emergency travel which is to cover the cost of getting your family to Gambell with you. The books were supposed to close September 30, but this one item is open, pending a report from you, and payment to you for this travel. We would appreciate an immediate statement telling us how much we owe you for bringing your family to Gambell.

We trust the Lord is blessing your work, and that you are happy in it.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ/mk

Percy H. Ipalook

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.

Wainwright, Alaska

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

January 6, 1944

Rev. R. R. Armstrong
Box No. 1736
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Rev. Armstrong:

Sometime ago before Christmas we received your letter informing us of a new arrival in your home. Please accept the belated congratulations. I take it this is your first in the family, the joy and ~~the~~ pride that goes with the experience is beyond description. I believe you know I ought to know.

*see letter from
Spencer
with*

In a way I am hesitant to forward the enclosed bill sent me in October, since I have had a letter from Dr. King suggesting not to have the family brought here too soon account the prevalent tubercular contamination and "exposing the Board to family moving expense". Since I am given the extra grant of \$200 for the year, I think I can shoulder this expense should you think it feasible. Otherwise, here is the expense bill and I am quite certain the creditor is anxiously waiting for this settlement. Please have me know which would be the wiser thing to do.

Just at the present our Church work is interrupted by "flu" which was brought here by a plane in December. The whole village is down with it but gradually pulling off. Fortunately, Miss Keaton is now with us from Savoonga but had to be forced to bed for four days.

Wishing you and yours the best of everything for the New Year and God's blessings in your work with us in His Service.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Enc.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

January 18, 1944

Narrative Report -- Dec. 15 to Jan. 14, 1944

"Ever since last Communion (Oct. 3) something very strong in my mind. Now I want to be prayed for." With this simple request a woman came with her husband one early afternoon. The story was she had been asked to marry a certain young man but ended up by marrying the man's brother. Since then this woman and the former suitor had not been on "speaking terms" for several years. "Life now better," she continued, "after that Sunday, we are now like brother and sister." As it were, the Communion Service had "broken the ice" for both. Each recalled the Saviour's words, "If ye forgive men....your heavenly Father will forgive you."

Christmas, as in other places, is a special joyous occasion to the Eskimo. For several weeks our young people made the preparation to give a musical presentation of Christmas carols with scenes relative to birth of Christ. The outcome was such that a request was made to repeat carols the following Sunday, which we did. As old Womkon put it, "Oh, we like to hear three or four times. We like good singing. As I sat there and listened, I feel very humble."

Following Christmas the "flu" in the village interrupted our Church work the rest of the month. As a result we had one funeral for an old man. As usual the coffin was to be taken over the hillside for burial, but I was prepared on the way by one of the young men that this might take a little longer to get to the burial site. On reaching the slope we started climbing -- at times going at an angle of sixty degrees. Clear to the top of a 600 foot mountain and among the bleak rocks with the wind howling (semi-blizzard), the last ritual was said for an oldest church member. Reason for peculiar site: old Iyaketan was a respected villager as he was a successful whaleman in his younger days. This was, and is, the custom.

Percy Ipalook
Gambell, Alaska



*Received as letter from
Wainwright 2/18/44*

FEB 17 1944

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

January 26, 1944

Unit of Sunday School Missions
of the Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Sir:

This letter will have reference to my letter of
September 2, 1943, wherein I had asked for 50 copies of VESPER
Hymn Books. ^{been} All these books have ^{been} trailing along by
intervals and to date have received 45 copies and sold. Hence,
the enclosed check to the amount of twenty-two dollars (\$22.00),
proceeds from 40 copies sold at retail of 55¢ each. The balance
will be sent as soon as the books are here and sold.

✓ grants books
books etc
2/17/44

✓ under sum Jan - 5 - 44

Were there any Scripture Text Calendars mailed us at the
time these Hymn Books were mailed? ✓ To date I have not seen any
of such, nor do I have information either way. Some folk are
enquiring about these calendars.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

Enc.
31

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Canbell, St. Lawrence Island

January 26, 1944

The Rev. J. Earl Jackman, Sec'y
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Rev. Jackman:

This letter is in reference to your letter of 14th this month, paragraph 6, in relation to travel expense for my family Kotzebue to Canbell last fall. I have referred this to Rev. Armstrong, Anchorage, and trust he has informed you of it by this time. The only expense was the one from Kotzebue to Nome to the amount of \$181 owed to Wain Air Service, Nome, Alaska. This may be paid directly to Wain Air Service or the payment may be sent me which I can forward to the party concerned. The family was ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~enforced~~ ^{enforced} to wait two weeks in Nome before sailing here but the living expense the good wife thwarted off by working part time for board and rooming with a family over there. Boat fare Nome to the Island was in a Government boat and did not involve any expense.

Thanking you for the inquiry on this item, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

CC. Rev. H. R. Armstrong

*Chgd. to
Accts Payable
& other
Units - Alaska Unit
Emergency Travel*

John R. H. H.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

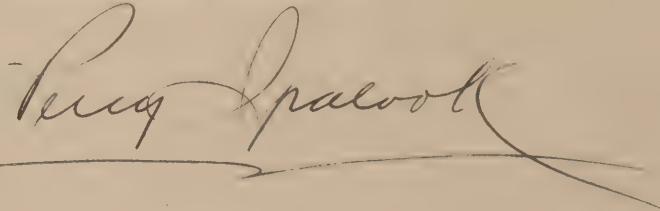
February 15, 1944

Narrative Report -- Jan 15 to Feb 14, 1944

We have gradually pulled out of "flu" and cautiously resumed our church services. If "flu" had hindered our work, the cold weather is another factor that has interfered. Nevertheless, we are on the full swing again and look forward to our usual stride.

We have lost one fine mother to a family of four as a result of prevalent "flu". In her illness this mother had shown her patience and resignation to her Creator. One evening her wearied body could no longer stand the ailment and she called out in simple faith and prayer, "My Father, either give me strength to regain my health or take my soul quickly to Thyself." Her prayer was answered the very next morning as she quietly succumbed to the inevitability. She was a tubercular case for many years. Her Christian departure from this life could never have been as such only a few years ago. "Peace I leave with you" was commended upon in her funeral.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Percy Ipalook', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Percy Ipalook
Gambell, Alaska

MAR 18 1944

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

February 24, 1944

AIR MAIL

Rev. J. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Rev. Jackman:

This letter will necessarily have in reference to my letter to Dr. King, August 21, 1943, and to his reply to same dated September 21, 1943. The item in question is "disposing my family to possible contagion of tuberculosis prevalent among villagers." The family has been here since October 7. Now that we have been here about half a year we can easily see for ourselves this is no place for our children. Their health is to be guarded against eventualities. For further precaution, our Public Health Nurse suggested we draw our two boys out of school, which we promptly did the beginning of this week. Undoubtedly, I will have to be obliged to transport my family to mainland and on up to wife's folks at Kotzebue the earliest possible in spring, probably in May or June. You will please understand this is not decided upon "at a moment's notice" but after prayer and consideration pro and con over issue.

I trust this will receive your deliberate consideration and decision made by Board which will be beneficial for all concerned.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

March 1, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Percy Ipalook
Gambell
St. Lawrence Island, Alaska

My dear Mr. Ipalook:

Thank you for your letter of January twenty-sixth giving us a report of the cost of the travel for your family from Kotzebue to Gambell last September. We had not received any report on this and were holding an item open on our books so that we could pay whatever the cost of the transportation may be.

We are sending a check for \$121.- to the Munz Air Service for this item. We are also asking them to send us a receipt for it so we will have a complete record of the transaction.

We should commend your good wife upon her patience in waiting to complete this trip and her willingness to work part time to help reduce the cost of the trip. This indicates a very fine spirit on her part to complete the journey with a minimum of expense to the Board. We want to cooperate with you in every possible way for the furtherance of your work and we appreciate your fine spirit in return.

Reports which reach us indicate that you are doing a fine work on St. Lawrence Island and we want to commend you highly for it. There is no substitute for ones complete consecration to the cause of Christ and ones willingness to give all of himself in this service. We know you are doing that to the utmost of your ability. We would be glad to have a more extended report from you telling us more about your work.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

March 15, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Percy Ipalook
Gambell, St. Lawrence Island
Alaska

My dear Mr. Ipalook:

We are greatly distressed because of your report of the health situation in the schools which has caused the withdrawal of your children from them. This is a matter which would naturally give you great concern as you think of your family and certainly we should not expect you to keep your family there under these circumstances. We would heartily approve of their removal to your wife's home as early in the Spring as may be practical.

We cannot expect you to stay on indefinitely in Gambell with your family and your problem necessitates that some change should be made. We will consider this matter and hope to arrive at a solution of it early enough that some change may be made during the summer. I am going to Alaska in April and will talk over these matters with the National Missions Committee there and hope to find a way out for you and provision for our mission work. Meanwhile we shall ask you to do your best under the circumstances.

We note your request for a transfer to Wales. This is another matter which must be taken up with the Committee for decision. We shall notify you as soon as something can be done.

We are hearing good reports on your work and trust the Lord will bless you and strengthen you in your vital service.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island

March 15, 1944

Narrative Report -- Feb 15 to Mar 14, 1944

Our observance of Lenten Season begins this month. During this observance emphasis is placed on re-consecration along with view of winning others to Christ. Approaches are being made to individuals who as yet have been hardened to old life and not willing to yield to new Christian life. This personal work gives an interesting and illuminating side as to problems often encountered by those who are "on the outside." Our Church makes it a special intercession that the Holy Spirit have his way, not only with some but with all of those still not interested in Christian living.

World Day of Prayer observance was largely attended. For the meditation period our interpreter spoke for us the day's meditation in "The Upper Room" prepared by Margaret T. Applegarth. Several members in the congregation voluntarily opened their hearts in intercession and that "we may rightly close this day for the Christian world" asking "for guidance of His children around the earth."

We have lost a fine young man--a victim of prevalent tuberculosis in the Island. He was only twenty-one--and the fact makes it somewhat unbelievable as he was one who helped us in last Christmas programs and preparation. His dying words bring so much comfort to his parents and near kins as he "did not want to be held back, but that he wanted to go to Jesus." Elton was a fine young man -- bodily defeated by death but victoriously blasted that defeat with the name Jesus.

Percy Ipalook
Gambell, Alaska

A large, stylized handwritten signature of Percy Ipalook, written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Annual Report 1944 *10 AM* *John L. H.*
May 1 1944

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

~~WAINWRIGHT~~, ALASKA
Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

April 3, 1944

Rev. N. H. Champlin,
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Rev. Champlin:

I am enclosing the two blanks filled out as Annual Reports from Gambell Presbyterian Church for year ending March 31, 1944. There is an unusually large number in "Dismissed" column and this represents five (5) former members who have turned to Seventh Day Adventist faith and officially dismissed from our Roll by action of Session; four (4) are former members who were dismissed to Savoonga Presbyterian Church since my arrival.

I also have your circular letter dated March 1, and let this letter be an acknowledgement and explanation that due to uncertain traveling facilities, not to say the exorbitant rate, we wish to be excused from the Presbytery's special meeting. We would like to have met the new Secretary from New York, and that pleasure will necessarily have to be laid aside to ~~the~~ some other time.

Yours in His Service,

Percy Ipalook

Enc.
Annual Report of Church
Annual Report on Christian Education

Registered Mail

5/1/44
at 5:00 PM
per [unclear]

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

April 18, 1944

MAY 15 1944

John R. [unclear]

Narrative Report -- Mar 15 to Apr 14, 1944

Our work the early part of the month was retarded by reappearance of "flu" in the village. It seems it does not take much to break down the physical strength of these Islanders--at least a large majority of our church-goers.

The highlight of this period was the Holy Week services culminating with Easter Day. Those three day services proved to us a valuable and inspiring experience in our church life. For the Easter morning service our Young People had specially prepared music and it was worth the effort to get music sung in "four parts." For this Day we are indebted to a U. S. Weather Bureau chief and his wife who so willingly helped us in singing and playing the organ during the service. The joyous day was topped over with a quiet Communion Service in the afternoon where 117 communicants took part. One infant was baptized. So was one young person of thirteen in Confession of Faith. This young man had a tragic experience in losing his foster parents in January where both froze to death. In seeking help the boy encountered a traveler who rushed him into the village, thus saving his life although one arm had to be amputated in order to save his life. He is now seeking and finding comfort among Christian circles in the village.

The month ended with my trip to Savoonga to help Miss Ann Martin with her work and to conduct session meetings with a Moderator.

Percy Ipalook

Percy Ipalook
Gambell, Alaska

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

May 4, 1944

AIRMAIL

Miss Frieda Koerner
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N.Y.

My dear Miss Koerner:

I have your letter of April 11, last, and wish to thank you for your inquiry. Although we are very much interested in some one's generous offer of Scriptures in Eskimo dialect I fear the books would not be usable here in the Island. The dialect among these people is distinctly different from that spoken in mainland and especially northern region of Alaska that I would not put the expense of shipping them unless we have seen a copy for examination. The only printed Scripture in Eskimo dialect I have seen was done by Moravian Church missionaries and used among Kuskokwim Eskimos in southwestern part of Alaska (Peshagak region). Even then it was hard to decipher reading basing it against my own Pt. Barrow dialect although there were some similarities in basic terms, as land (earth), sky (heaven), people, etc.

Would this particular would-be-donor be willing to send us a returnable copy for examination, and after studying it in view of St. Lawrence Island dialect, Wales, Kotzebue and Barrow dialects I may be able to give its utility among our work in Eskimo missions.

Thanking you once again in this interesting information, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

*5/26/44 wrote Mr Bayless
sup. that the entire send us
a copy to forward to Mrs. Ipalook,
or gave Percy Ipalook's address
and he can send it direct.
Noted fact of above letter.*

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

May 4, 1944

MAY 11 1944

AIRMAIL

Rev. J. Earl Jackman,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Rev. Jackman:

This letter will have in reference to my letter of Feb 24th and to your reply of March 15th. We do not wish to burden you with family adjustments as there is already much to concern with in local mission work. But we know that you understand the grave situation with which I am deeply concerned over my own family.

On March 18th. last, our first three children were among many to be examined and X-rayed by a physician from mainland. Since then we were quite anxious to know what the results of findings would be. Yesterday the "pictures" came here and we have been informed by the local Government Nurse. Our second child, viz., Thomas, age 6½, shows of shadowy marks in the lungs "not active pulmonary, but..", which causes us to place him under routine treatment and giving him the necessary vitamins to combat the dreaded possibilities. The X-ray was done by an Army doctor and if necessary I am sure the local Government Nurse can supply you the exact readings on the same. The doctor is rumored to be here in a day or two and under advise of the Nurse we will approach him for suggestions what we should do. If he should suggest that we pull off the children from the Island immediately I believe that is what we will be obliged to do and take them right on to Kotzebue where favorable conditions may be found to care for the children. It will be necessary for me to accompany the family to Nome and send them on to Kotzebue and if necessary for me to return to the Island till I should hear from you, I will do that. I say, it will be necessary for me to go to Nome with them since it is a trying experience for a mother of five small children to find lodging when nothing much can be found. Then again, Mrs. wants to be examined by a Nome doctor before going on for an ailment she has had the past winter. Fortunately, one child in the family needs this immediate attention and the others seem to be in favorable condition.

I have not heard what the National Missions Committee have mapped out for us but we know that you have been in Alaska and will hope to hear concerning this before very long. When and if I broke away from this Island I am counting on a month's leave, which I believe is the Board's policy for its missionaries. I did not have it last year only for the prolonged trip of transfer from Wainwright to here. Will be awaiting for your reply.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

MAY 11 1944

~~WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA~~

May 5, 1944

Rev. J. Earl Jackman,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N. Y.

CC. Rev R. Rolland Armstrong

July 1864

Mr. Johnson

When writing Mr. Johnson
Please mention to him that
Mr. Warden has written that
in reference to the 15 copies of
the first issue which were
not sent me previous order,
and we have received the
money in payment of the
40 copies.

Yours for Warden

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

Gambell, St. Lawrence Id.

May 15, 1944

MAY 29 1944
John H. H.

Narrative Report -- Apr 15 to May 14, 1944

The beginning of the month found us at Savoonga helping Miss Ann Martin with her work there. On Sunday the Holy Communion was served the congregation and nine infants baptized. Other matters were taken up such as Sessional meetings and making up the Annual Church Report for that Church.

This time of the year is the "haymaking" period for the Eskimo when hunting sea game is excellent. So far one whale, three polar bears, and several walrus have been caught by the hunters. Early morning start is essential for a successful hunt when weather permits it. Thus an average ~~period~~ resting period for each man is around five or six hours of sleep each night for week at a time. Twelve to fourteen hours of hunting is not unusual and most of that without any lunch. It was no wonder at the end of one Saturday's outing old Womkon tiredly exclaimed, "Good thing--big sleep tonight. No worry get up early. We rest all day tomorrow." And rest it was since our Sunday School does not begin till eleven in the morning and worship service towards end of the afternoon. Even then resting and worshipping on Sunday still needs to be stressed to several of our people. Desecration of Sabbath is too prevalent.

Since Christmas we have had seven funerals conducted. (Funerals are in the homes and not in the church.) Five of the decease were victims of tuberculosis. It is alarming how our young people are falling fast to this disease. Four of five above listed averaged eighteen years in age. Four more of the young people are slated to less than a year. If there is any way to at least retard the pace--estimate of depopulation of this Island has been set twenty to thirty years--unless something drastic is given to offset the "white plague."

Respectfully submitted

Percy Ipalook
Gambell, Alaska

Percy Ipalook

May 16, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Percy Ipalook
Gambell, St. Lawrence Id., Alaska

My dear Mr. Ipalook:

We are sorry to receive the information concerning the condition of your son. We know this is of great concern to you and we want to cooperate with you in every way possible in clearing this matter.

When I was in Fairbanks and also Anchorage, the men of the Presbytery felt that you would be faced with the problem of tuberculosis and your children in every place along the Arctic Coast. Later I met someone who had a contact with a government nurse and this person reported that there was a little worse situation in Gambell than in some other places.

It would seem that your wife would need some help to get the children to her home in Kotzebue and we expect you to lend whatever help is necessary at a minimum of expense.

Frankly, the necessity of your transfer presents us with a difficult problem. If you have to leave Gambell we have more workers on the Arctic Coast than we have places for them at present. It would seem necessary for us to secure a minister and wife without children with them for Gambell. This would mean that someone else would come in from the outside and make one more worker at our station. We have considered the possibility of sending you to Wales but it does not seem to be the opportune time to transfer Miss Stauffer. We shall have to work this problem out and would appreciate your continuance at Gambell until we can do something about it. We have no one immediately available to take over the work at Gambell and would need an ordained minister for that Church and need someone there to save our work from the Seventh Day Adventists as well as giving a service to the people. We shall try to get some action as soon as possible but would ask you to bear with us and return to Gambell after seeing your family through Nome.

Miss Warden of our office has written to the Board of Christian Education in Philadelphia concerning the ten copies of Vesper Chimes which were not sent on the original order. We will get a report as soon as possible. We have received the money in payment for the forty copies.

Page 42
The Rev. Peroy Ipalook

May 16, 1944

We have approved the voucher for your trip to Savoonga and appreciate the fine report which you gave us concerning Miss Martin's work. We are going to develop plans for the possibility of a new Church if and when circumstances permit. We are willing if it can be done.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEU:FK
Dictated but not
signed by Mr. Jackman

COPY of this letter also sent to The Rev. Percy Ipalook
c/o Miss Emma Stauffer
Wales, Alaska

September 12, 1944

(letter actually mailed 9-15-44)

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Percy Ipalook
Gambell, St. Lawrence Id., Alaska
OR
Kotzebue, Alaska

Dear Percy:

The telegraph report was necessary from you in order to work out some details which are now developing. We do not know where you will be when this letter reaches you so we are sending one copy to Kotzebue and one copy to Gambell for your information and direction.

On account of your family situation, you have asked to be transferred to Wales and we have been working in that direction for several months but up until now have had no opportunity of even giving you any encouragement that this could be done. Plans are developing toward this end and if we are able to work them out we can accomplish your desire.

We are appointing The Rev. and Mrs. Elmer E. Parker of Hazelton, Idaho for service at Gambell. They are a middle aged couple with no children, want to serve in Alaska, and are devoted to the cause of Christ. Mr. Parker has been a Sunday school missionary, is able to adjust himself to rather humble circumstances, has some ability with tools, and ought to render a great service. He is the installed Pastor of two Churches and must go through the necessary procedures before they can be ready to start to Gambell. It would seem to me that they cannot arrive up there at Nome or thereabouts until about the middle of October, although it may be possible to get them there earlier. At any rate the appointment has been made and they have indicated their willingness to go.

Miss Stauffer has recently asked to be transferred from Wales, and we are planning to send her to Klukwan in the northern part of southeastern Alaska. She would like to come out from Wales by October first in order to take advantage of as good weather as possible. She will bring with her an Eskimo boy for whom she has been caring for several years. We have told her that we are trying to make arrangements to have you replace her. She has indicated her willingness to have you and would like to have you there before she leaves so that she may turn over everything to you with whatever advice and help she can give about the property and the work.

September 12, 1944

If you have not already gone over to Gambell, perhaps you will want to go and get the articles of clothing which you ordered shipped up there for your family. We want you to leave the food there for the Parker's so that we will be sure they will be supplied for the winter. Miss Stauffer has indicated that she has sufficient fuel and food supply for a year. Upon second thought, it may be sufficient for her but not for you with your family. It is too late now to have more shipped to Wales so you will have to make some arrangements for additional food. I hope it will be possible for you to do this after you arrive at Wales. We are reminding you of this so that it can be cared for as early as possible and be sure that your family is plentifully supplied with food for the year. Miss Stauffer has a duplicate order of fuel from last winter so that there is sufficient fuel for you.

I do not have a recent report on the condition of the manse, the amount of furniture there, and whether or not it will be adequate for your family. You can make whatever adjustments are necessary when you arrive and report to me so that we can help you in arrangements for the future.

We want you to keep us rather closely informed about your movements in case we need to get in touch with you. You seem to be a long distance away from us and we are rather helpless in developing some of these arrangements at such a distance. We sit here and wonder how you are getting along with them. Please get in touch with Miss Stauffer as early as possible and make a strong effort to arrive in Wales even if you have to go first without your family to relieve her by October first. We shall be responsible for a minimum cost of the transportation in this transfer. We know you will not make it any more expensive than necessary. Do not wire Miss Stauffer unless there is no other way of communicating with her. She has asked that we only write her because of information getting out through the telegraph office. This may make it difficult for you to wire her only as a last resort.

As you move to Wales to renew your service for Christ under the Presbyterian Church, we trust the Lord's richest blessings may be upon you and yours. May it mean that you and your good wife will have the greatest opportunity of service for the Kingdom and the best possible advantage for the health and spiritual development of your children. We trust that you will be a faithful minister of Christ and loyal to the Board of National Missions in our missionary work.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackson, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:PK

FEB 26 1945

WALLACE HOTEL
NOME, ALASKA

Mon. Feb 19 - 45

Dear Harry:

If no mail goes out tonight I will wire you, you may get the same information twice. You should send this information on to Dr. Jockman air mail.

The reason Percy went to Kotzebue instead of Wales was he had to get out of Nome here or be quarantined with the rest for Diphtheria possibilities. He could not say so to Dr. Jockman as it would not pass Censor so he gave as the reason his wife's condition and other unforeseen developments. There was no plane going to Wales or would or could for a few days - he felt he better get to Kotzebue.

Shortly after things hit the peak here with the disease Wales went into quarantine & the sickness was bad there so that quarantine lasted quite a long time. When all ^{restrictions} were lifted he then tried to get over to Wales immediately.



On the Shore of Bering Sea

Ferguson Air ways crashed up a plane
and that put that line out of Commission.
Their last plane was gone so both pilot
& boss went outside to get another plane.
You know how Wiens have been flying,
very little this direction, if at all. Star made
no trips, neither did Bill much. In
fact Bill was "out side". Finally after
weeks of waiting he got a trip with
Wiens over to here - expecting to go the
next day into Wales. He boarded the Star
Air ways plane made better O.K. but when
they went to put down at Wales the wind
was so bad they could not land. That is
better than 2 weeks ago. He is still here
& the only plane that could go ~~was~~ is still
in Fairbanks for engine exchange. - Bill
Munze ~~was~~ is back trying to go but his
engine is not working right & will not be
O.K. for a couple days yet. --- Bill went
in just ahead of the Star that day but
Percy is out of funds & Star took him over
on "the cuff" - or at least part so. Wiens
brot him over on credit also.

Now what gets me is this - from the
letter rec'd from N.Y. I am not sure
if Percy has any checks waiting for him in
Wales. He has had no mail for months.
He don't know but assumes money will be

WALLACE HOTEL

NOME, ALASKA

there for him. I am sure it will be, at least some money but I believe if his back pay has not been forwarded it should be as it was not his fault the sickness came over him which made him go to Kotzebue on the jump. If he had stayed here the price of staying would have been high - also he had a better chance, he assumed, of getting from an unquarantined town than a quarantined one.

I find Peray a fine young preacher, capable & reliable. He has had offers from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to teach, also from other agencies for Eskos, but he says no to them all - His heart & life is in the ministry. -- But his travel has been heavy. He has been forced from his family for long periods of time. He was not asked if he would go to St. Lawrence Island. He was told to go. This



On the Shore of Bering Sea

Whole movement has cost ^{him} hundreds of dollars more than he is putting in a bill for

With two having 6 children, having
a salary only of 1600.00, with doctor bills
to pay to keep one alive - getting better now -
with a future school problem on his
mind. I can see where the constant
call by the Bureau of Indian Affairs,
or another church - He has been asked
by some to consider staying in Nome which
he turns off as the rest - might make him
stop to ask some questions. -- He even
had to borrow money to eat on over here
in Nome while awaiting transportation.
Those things are humiliating. -- The store
proposition we feared of had some foundation
but not an offer by a relative. The answer was the same.

There is still more to the total picture
but I can tell you more of it later. I
feel that it was good I came over. I have
been with him now since Thursday. I think he
feels good about it that we could be together.
It is good for us away from here that we can
see his side of the picture. Dr. Jackson should
feel relieved & good about the matter even
tho the loss of months will make its mark.
That salary ~~was~~ withheld should be paid and
I believe will be. -- He is discouraged or was
to some little extent.

Preachers are flocking to Nome like Fairbanks.
I feel the future holds confusion. I believe I will
refrain from going to ~~Nome~~ ^{Wade}. I will stay to see him off
however & possibly take a side trip if I can. But Walter Bert.

Mrs. J. will be in ^{Wade} ~~Wade~~ sometime
this spring. 1893.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
WALES, ALASKA

March 15, 1945

Narrative Report for Feb. 15 to Mar. 14, 1945

In relating our experiences for this report it will be necessary to look back over a month to the beginning of February. It was on 3rd of the month I was able to get to Nome with view of taking the first transportation to Wales from Nome. Everything seemed to have worked well for on the 5th we were off heading for Wales, and in spite of much turbulence and drifting ground storm we did get above the village of Wales. To the pilot the element disturbances were not worth the trying of landing - so, back to Nome again. ~~So~~ Some of us who have had to wait several times - weeks at a time - in that Golden City would like to designate it as "Waiting-for-Eventualities Melting Pot." Your enthusiasm of "getting-around-places" and patience just "melts" - and stays melted.

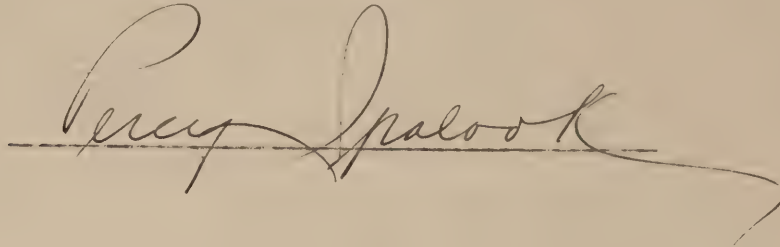
In the course of the month a light, as though from high heavens, beamed in the person of Rev. B. J. Bingle of Alaskan Highways Ministry. It was the first he and I ever met although correspondence between us had ensued. More than once I accused this friend of not liking my person, for as soon as he got there he began to see to it that I got off the earliest possible for Wales. (We have always contended, and still do, that some towns in our wonderful Alaska are no places for natives - both Eskimo and Indian - for obvious reasons. Rev. Bingle seems to have the same idea.) This getting away from the above named town had been my endeavor for the last twelve days prior to our meeting. Fully one week gave us a chance to get acquainted, and those days were worth-while spent. There was that week of two-men conference concerning our particular work; we met other interested people about religious, ~~and~~ social, and economic work among our race; we made social calls together among Bingle's many friends.

The 22nd of the month saw me off for Wales - a try for the second time. We made Wales but 6,000 feet above ground, circled around couple of times and on to the next village, Shishmaref, some seventy miles further north. Apparently, Wales was going to prove its descriptive nature as being the "stormiest", western-most point of North America. It was very nice to know Rev. and Mrs. Dahle of Norwegian Lutheran Mission to Shishmaref. It appears to me they have seen about twenty years' service (if not a great deal more) among the Eskimo in Seward Peninsula. Rev. Dahle was delighted to see another sky-pilot creeping in to his field for he was going to have me occupy the pulpit that following Sunday. That was Thursday afternoon, and this modern prophet with his many years in the Arctic seemed to have pretty good weather forecast in his own quaint way. I simply expressed the desire of hoping to fill and occupy Wales Church pulpit that coming Sunday if I could help it. But if and when I should be detained that long, (I had not forgotten the three weeks' wait at Nome) I certainly would be glad to sit back in the back row and "take it all in" which I had not done for several weeks. (Miss Erickson, of Methodist Mission for Eskimo at Nome, firmly believes you just got to earn your pay within or without your own parish area.) As it turned out each of us was disappointed not to have heard the other's discourse. The diphtheria scourge had broken ~~again~~ again a day before we came - thus barring all public meetings the five days we were marooned at the village.

The 27th of the month finally saw me getting off the plane at Wales. Every one was fine and seemed happy to see the Manse occupied once more. Our predecessor, Miss M. M. Stauffer, deserves much commendation for renovating both the Church building and the Manse. The organized program of the Church simplifies

activities for the week. Systematized weekly offerings have helped to meet the Benevolence Quotas for the current year, paid for the new hymnals that arrived last summer, met the needed provisions for a family which lost its father and supporter last year. The present time is seeing us in full preparation for Holy Week services and we have high hopes of satisfactory culmination with Glad Easter Day.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Percy Ipalook", written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and extends to the right with a long, sweeping tail.

Percy Ipalook
Presbyterian Mission
Wales, Alaska

John Chapman
Memorandum 5/7/45

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
WALES, ALASKA

April 16, 1945

Narrative Report for Mar. 15 to Apr. 14, 1945

MAY 10 1945
John

This was an unusually busy month for our Mission. Our settling to work coupled with preparation for fast-approaching Easter season, with Session and Church officers' meetings in between. In the early part of the month we called a Congregational Meeting to survey and report to our members the year's activities. Here are a few items noted by our Clerk in the Records:

1. Former missionary, Miss E. M. Stauffer, left the field in early October.
2. The present missionary was not able to arrive till late February.
3. In the meantime, Sunday School and Church services were under supervision of the Session.
4. Diphtheria epidemic interrupted Church services during December and January.
5. Financial Report showed Receipts of \$200.89, out of which \$65.00 was expended for Hymn Books, \$60.57 sent to the Board of National Missions, and \$15 set aside for Deacons' Benevolent work locally.
6. Over a year having elapsed since the visiting minister was here, plans were formulated to hold Communion Service and Baptism given infants on Easter Sunday.
7. Devotional guides such as "Today" discussed and decided upon to be secured for "Family Worships" at homes.

Good Friday Service in itself lended preparatory aspect for both Easter Morning ~~Service~~ Worship and Communion Service.

Easter Sunday our Sunday School session was pushed an hour earlier so as to have the following hour for Morning Worship. How those Easter Hymns rang out from our choir! (The choir consists of about half of the congregation.) It was worth the tiring and tedious rehearsals several days before. Following the Communion Service six homes were visited and Communion served to Shut-Ins as well as Baptism given to two infants. It was indeed a happy day. The quietness and the beauty of this day was noteworthy after experiencing a month and a half of constant blows and storms. So passed another Easter season in the Arctic. We are now beginning to enjoy longer days and warmer weather. As one person expressed it, "You surely do not want to die off in spring." It seems more so up here and having gone through the revitalizing experience of Easter with its Infant Baptism and participation in Holy Supper of the "Bread of Life."

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipallook
Presbyterian Mission
Wales, Alaska

Percy Ipallook

May 15, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Percy Ipalook
Wales, Alaska

Dear Percy:

It was a matter of great disappointment to me when I was unable to get to Wales during my trip to Alaska. Weather conditions would not permit the trip to St. Lawrence and Wales. I waited three days at Nome for transportation and then the Weather Bureau prophesied the weather was closing in for a week. There was no plane available so there was nothing to do but return to Fairbanks. I did have a visit at Barrow but was unable to get to Wainwright. I had hoped to visit all of the stations along the Arctic Coast but this will have to be delayed for a future trip. I had the pleasure of a visit with your brother at Barrow and we talked a little about you.

At your request, we are including in your order a mimeograph machine of good quality with a supply of paper, ink, and stencils. We are wondering if you have a book of Church designs and patterns which you can use with the mimeograph. Dr. Richardson of McCormick Seminary has put out such a book and we can get you one if you need it. The supply of paper, ink, and stencils is only a guess and you may or may not need as much another year.

We are also trying to get a chemical toilet and this will be charged to maintenance of the mission rather than to your personal account.

I was in Presbytery meeting when your word came about the temperance education and the school situation. Our churches should do something in educating our people on the evils of liquor. We trust that you will put this into your program and will do all that you can in regard to it. If there are materials which we can get to help you please let us know. Incidentally, I sent a package of printed material to you from Nome when I found it was impossible to make the visit.

I interviewed Mr. Starling at Nome in regard to your school situation. He, too, felt the uncertainty of school teachers for the coming year. Presbytery approved of your suggestion of the Church attempting to render some service but we feel that you should not bear the entire responsibility of a

May 15, 1945

school program. If the children have no school then you ought to do something which would be helpful but you cannot bear the full responsibility in meeting this need.

We would be glad to have more information about the welfare of your family and their possibility of getting to Wales with you. We should like also to have a frank statement from you as to how you are getting along on your salary. We are concerned over your physical welfare as well as your spiritual growth and ministry.

We are delighted with the solid foundation which Miss Stauffer laid for Stewardship among your people. We hope that you will build on this and encourage your people to be tithers. We want them to take an increasing responsibility in the support of their mission station and their minister. We are glad to know that things are picking up in Wales under your leadership.

Kindest personal regards!

Cordially yours,

JEB:FK

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

PROTESTANT MISSION
WALES, ALASKA

JUN 11 1945

May 15, 1945

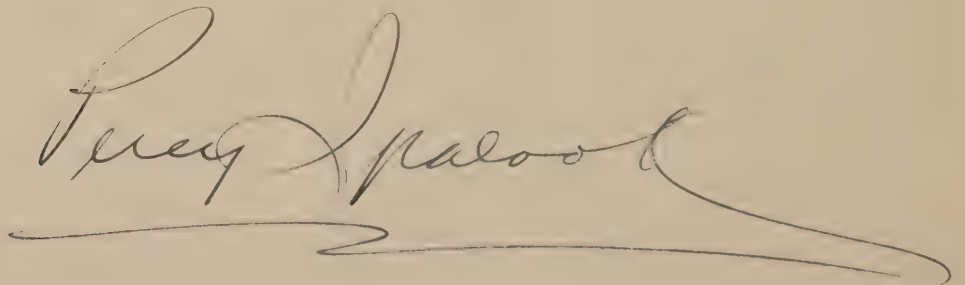
Narrative Report for April 15 to May 14, 1945

With long days now with us our men have begun their annual sea game hunt including the much prized whale, but so far have had no success outside of smaller game and wild ducks. The spring season always affect our church services especially the mid-week meetings not only because of hunting but also of villagers on making trips to neighboring towns for visits and trading. Six men have also left for summer's work at Nome leaving their families here.

The apparent quietness of this month was interrupted by world-wide news of Germany's unconditional surrender to the Allied Nations. We cannot help but look back twenty-six and a half years and compare that first Armistice with this year's. The writer living at Barrow then did not know of the glad news till Christmas Eve of that year. Today with the convenience of modern radio with short wave band we are kept in touch with the outside world at all times. It is significant to be able to hear the announcement of end of war in Europe on the very same day. "Big Ben" and "Westminster Chimes" seemed so close, and King George's request to offer thanksgiving to the Almighty by Christians everywhere was clearly heard. Our own President Truman's setting aside May 13th to be a Day of Thanksgiving was observed with special service to that end, and prayers offered for God's guidance on the yet unfinished struggle against tyranny. This village has four of its young men in the Armed Forces serving with other boys from native villages.

Respectfully submitted,

Percy Ipalook
Wales, Alaska



check P. S. Will you please inform the Treasury Department that I received the salary for March today. I notice it was postmarked 8th. Four days for a letter from N.Y. to Wales--almost incredible. Voucher for same is the enclosure. P.I.

Presbyterian Mission

UNDER THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

APR 8 1946

PERCY IPALOOK, MINISTER

WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

WALES,

March 12, 1946

Dr. J. Earl Jackman,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Should be very interesting

Your letter of February 27th was recently received. We are now working on the annual order of supplies of Mission needs and hope to dispatch that before very long. In reference to Stove Oil, it was well that we were shipped Shell Stove Oil the summer of 1945. This type of oil works well with the stoves we have here. However, for some reason or another we found Shell Dieseline for fuel on our arrival the winter of 1945. I do not know whether this was done at Seattle in 1944 by error, or if the stuff was placed here in replacement by somebody else. Since we still have some old Oil stock on hand, we are using this heavy oil since I believe in using old stock first rather than the fresh supply. The results are as I had described the same in a former letter about the oil, plus the excess carbon formed in the stove as well as soot formation in both stove and pipes. The reason I had suggested the Standard brand was we were supplied with ~~that~~ at St. Lawrence Island and had thought the Shell people would have nothing but heavy oil.

3. I think I should report on this to the

Digressing to World situation at present in line with the current news we are receiving over the radio. The misunderstanding between United States (and Britain) and Soviet Russia is anything but comfortable to be situated in Cape Prince of Wales. We are wondering how Rev. and Mrs. Parker are viewing it over at Gambell. If things are from worse to worse it is only natural that I have or will be arranging to have my entire family away from the Cape, but myself being left with the people for awaiting any development that might be ensued by military authorities. At the present my family is well although there will have to be some dental work done and perhaps some tonsilectomy among the children. The wife will have to be examined once again (as a precautionary measure) before very long.

The schooling in the church had not progressed very well. The time was too crowded for me especially as the wife was sick and full preparation was on for Christmas festivities. By the time the season was over I was ready to take any suggestion of a short vacation even if it be in Africa. I am thinking of taking on a few more weeks of school before summer months are on. It was not altogether discouraging. The family wants to thank you for your personal interest in us and also for your greetings through your letters. I hope that the monthly reports are now regularly received by the Office.

Yours very sincerely,

Percy Ipalook

copy to Jackman AUG 5 1946

Nome, Alaska

July 31, 1946

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Perhaps you will wonder a bit for a reason I am writing this letter in Nome, but I have been here little over a week, with my oldest boy for necessary dental work. The dentist was through with him yesterday and I had hoped we would fly back to Wales in the afternoon but bad weather had to be a hindrance - still is today.

I do not think I had much of a chance to writing rather personal elements of myself and of my family there last two or three years. If I had I have failed to do so. Right at the present the family situation is in a fairly good condition with exception of this one boy who already has lost three permanent teeth (front-teeth & that) and has several filled. About couple of days ^{after} I started here in a native skin boat of our people at Wales, Esther (my wife) and the rest of the children, boarded a small mail boat for Kotzebue where

we hope to have a month off for medical check-up. The boy and I are following up on the same boat, the next trip after settling some affairs at Wales that needed to be done right away. I say, "medical check-up", since the wife had been down couple of times last winter with an old ailment, and some children who must undergo tonsilectomy quite soon.

This trip to Nome was or had become necessary for me in more than one reason. Incidentally, I have met a man who is from Indian Affairs Office at Juneau. I had about an hour's interview with him in relation to a possible filling of teacherage at Wales. You know we have not had any for over a year and we feel that not only Wales children have or are losing valuable time already, but the wife and I are concerned about our own school-age children. You will also recall our loss for children's schooling at St. Lawrence Island two years ago. The Indian Affairs Dept.

at Juneau has been rather stern and stubborn in supplying Wales with teachers for the very reason that Wales people had put in a petition for removal of teachers from there a year and a half ago. This was rather unfortunate and had I been there a little earlier than I had, perhaps I could have helped to switch the incident to a more pleasant way of doing it. But I arrived at Wales on the very same plane that took the petition out. In the meantime, some of these Indian Affairs personnel our way have become prejudiced against our people at Wales. Remarks such as "no teachers for Wales until all other vacancies are filled" "we are not sending any to Wales until Wales people have learned to respect their teachers" have been directed to me upon inquiry for possible teachers. Upon my request and upon the approval of the Presbytery the spring of 1945, I attempted to do a little last fall in the church. Dr. Lake of Indian Affairs at Juneau gave me permission whatever

school books and material I could find at school for our purpose. We could have done a rather favorable ^{substitutionary} ~~substitutionary~~ work in that respect if the wife had not broken down in health ~~in~~ the midst of the work. I wrote you shortly after Christmas just what had happened that made it necessary to drop my whole idea of preaching at "teaching" at the same time. I could not do it along with "doctoring" my wife and doing the housekeeping for our children.

Now — from my inquiries and meeting of these "officials" from Juneau, there is uncertainty whether we are to have any teachers at Wadley this next year. At least, to this late date, there have been no persons engaged for our station. If we are to have no teachers, and in the light of previous years where our children have lost a number of school periods, Esther and I have talked of possibility and perhaps necessary separation for a year or more — she being with her folks at Kotzebue where

school is not only available, but hospital right there for any ailment we too often see in our family. That means, I may have to attempt another time at Wales alone, but I am also aware that there could be another possibility of my unexpected departure from a missing station, as I had to in May of 1945 - and was not back to Wales till October of that year.

There are some of my personal problems. There are others I will have to leave till I can see you in person perhaps in Wales this year. I am counting at Kotzebue the month of August and everything well, hope to be at Wales the early week of September. If writing me in August send it or a copy of it to me at Kotzebue. Some of our Wales people are here in Rome for the summer's work and hope to be back home in the fall.

I appreciate your patience in reading this hand-written letter.

Yours very sincerely,
Percy Spalovik